SUNLIGHT

USEHOLD HINTS

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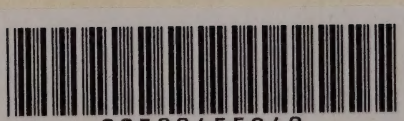
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SUNLIGHT HOUSEHOLD HINTS

A Useful Book of Reference
AND
Handy Guide in Domestic Matters.

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FOREWORD.

The following collection of Household Hints has been prepared in the hope that it may prove useful and valuable to the busy Housewife as a convenient and reliable guide in domestic matters.

To facilitate quick and easy reference the book has been divided into the following Sections : Household (General), Laundry, Kitchen and Pantry, Furniture, Floors, Cookery, Food and Beverages, Health Hints and Remedies, Clothing and Personal Articles, Sewing and Needlework, Toilet, Miscellaneous.

The Hints in each of these sections are placed in alphabetical order, whilst an exhaustive Index appears at the beginning which will further assist in securing ready reference.

All the recipes given are of the simplest and most economical description, and where reliable articles, manufactured for particular purposes are readily obtainable, such articles are recommended—a plan which is considered preferable to giving difficult and elaborate recipes, the preparation of which could only be effected at a considerable expenditure of time and money.

No pains have been spared in compiling the book, which, it is hoped, will prove of real value and use in every home.

LEVER BROTHERS LIMITED,

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SUNLIGHT
HOUSEHOLD HINTS.

HOUSEHOLD (General).

ALABASTER (To revive).—To revive Alabaster, wash with strong Sunlight Soap and water.

ANTS IN THE HOUSE.—A good way to destroy ants is to take half-a-pound of flowers of sulphur and four ounces of potash and put in an earthen vessel over a fire until dissolved and united. Ultimately beat this to a powder, infuse a little in water, and sprinkle the places infested by the ants. A few leaves of green wormwood scattered among the haunts of black ants will drive them away.

ASBESTOS FUEL.—Asbestos, which is nowadays so much used for gas fires, frequently becomes blackened owing to insufficient care in lighting or extinguishing, the fibre being darkened by gas smoke. To remedy this, common kitchen salt should be sprinkled over the Asbestos Fuel, and the jets lighted in the usual way. When re-lighting a stove for the first time since the early spring, the holes through which the gas should pass should be examined, and those which have become clogged with small particles of dust, carefully cleaned with a plug made of a pipe-cleaner dipped in warm water.

BATHROOMS (Care of).—Modern architecture insists on light, air, ventilation, and scientific sanitation. Baths are placed away from walls ; pipes are exposed so that broom and duster may be unimpeded by casing and woodwork, which in former times, owing to heat and darkness, were the gathering ground for much that was undesirable. Many people prefer Lifebuoy Soap in their baths, and in such case drains disinfect themselves ; where that is not so, it is desirable to pour a solution of Lifebuoy Soap and water into the bath occasionally, and let it escape through the drain. After bathing, the windows should always be opened, to prevent condensation being absorbed by the wall-paper (which should be sanitary and washable). Sponges, flesh-brushes, bath-gloves, and hair-

brushes should be regularly washed with Lifebuoy Soap, and laid for a few minutes on the window-sill to air. This simple process purifies them quickly and thoroughly.

BATHROOM TAPS.—These may be easily and quickly polished with Vim or Monkey Brand. Finally polish with a dry, soft cloth.

BATHROOM TILES (To clean).—Shake a little Vim on to a wet flannel and rub the tiles briskly. Wash or wipe off, and polish the tiles with a soft, clean cloth.

BATHS (To clean).—To clean baths, rub over occasionally with Monkey Brand. Wash down with clean water and dry with a cloth.

BATH (To re-enamel).—The best way to re-enamel a bath is first to make a paste of White Raven Soft Soap and common soda. Spread this thickly all over the paintwork of the bath, leaving it on for three days, to remove the old paint. Then wash all off with boiling water. When thoroughly dry, apply three coats of quick-drying ordinary white oil paint, allowing each coat to dry hard. Now rub the bath down with the finest glass paper. Then give two coats of white bath or porcelain enamel. Apply as thinly as possible, allowing about a week between each coat.

BEDROOMS (Care of).—Light is a purifier. Have no fear of open windows and raised blinds when bedrooms are not in use. At the same time, pull out the drawers of the furniture, and let the air circulate freely through them, so that you may enter a freshly aired room at bed-time, and also keep the contents of wardrobes and linen-chests free from mustiness. In each piece of furniture store away one or two small pieces of Lifebuoy Soap, to keep all sweet and pure. This will cost nothing, for the soap may be used at any time after it has served the office of purifier for a year or two. Have your bed-hangings and curtains light, easily removable, and frequently hung out to air. Floors should be scrubbed with Lifebuoy Soap, and paint-work cleaned with a soft sponge to which the soap has been applied.

BEDROOMS (Ventilating).—A sheet of finely-perforated zinc, substituted for a pane of glass in one of the upper squares of a bedroom window, is the cheapest and best form of ventilator.

BEDS, DAMP (To detect).—Let the bed be well warmed with a warming pan, and immediately after the pan is taken out, introduce between the sheets, in an inverted position, a clean glass tumbler. After it has remained in that position for a few minutes, examine it; if dry and not tarnished with steam, the bed is perfectly safe, and vice versâ. In the latter case, it is better to sleep between the blankets.

BEDS, DAMP (To prevent).—The best way to prevent a bed from becoming damp if left for a week or two, is to leave a blanket on the top of the bed, after it is made. Take the blanket off before using, and you will then find the bed quite safe.

BED-SHEETING, MACKINTOSH (To clean).—Dip the sheet in water. Rub Sunlight Soap all over it. Roll the sheet up and place in the water for a while. After a little time, remove and swill well with clean water. The dirt is completely removed without labour, or injury to the cloth.

BLACKLEADING HINT.—To save time and labour in blackleading, moisten the blacklead with ammonia, when the most brilliant and lasting polish will be the result. The grate never looks grey after it has been done in this way, and it will last for weeks with an occasional brushing up.

BLANKETS, STORING.—Before blankets are put away for the summer, they should be washed with Lux according to directions, dried, and thoroughly aired. They should then be tied up in sets of four, pieces of Lifebuoy Soap being scattered between the folds

BLANKETS (To mend).—Blankets should be darned with fine yarn, and when their edges are worn they should be bound with ribbon, or worked over with blanket stitch. When it is necessary to patch, the neatest way is to baste the patch on, and to herringbone the edges neatly down with white stocking mending.

BLIND CORDS (To strengthen).—Dust the cords and then rub them over with a well-greased rag. The snapping is caused by friction, which impoverishes the cords, which are further weakened by sun and weather. The greasing makes them pliable and prolongs their usefulness.

BLINDS, HOLLAND (To clean).—Sunshine soon shows up soiled holland and other cotton blinds. The best way to clean these is to place them flat on the table and well rub with bread-crumbs. This is much easier and gives better results than ordinary washing. If the blinds are very dirty, there is nothing better than washing with Sunlight Soap.

BLINDS, CREAM OR WHITE (To clean).—Get some powdered bath-brick dust, lay the blind flat on the table, sprinkle the bath-brick dust over it, and rub very hard with a clean, dry cloth. Then dust off with another clean cloth. This is usually a very successful treatment.

BLINDS, VENETIAN (To freshen).—Window blinds which have become dull and rusty with age may be considerably freshened by means of a coating of linseed oil. Any old clean brush may be used with which to apply it, the blind being first scoured with Sunlight soap-suds and then dried before the oil is laid on.

BLINDS, VENETIAN (To wash without shrinkage).—The easiest way to wash Venetian blinds and prevent the tapes from shrinking, is, after washing the tapes, to leave them in cold water until the laths are ready. To remove the laths, untie the knots at the bottom of the blind, draw the cords at the top, and then take out the laths from the ladders. Dust a little Vim or Powder Monkey on to a very damp cloth, and rub the laths straight along from end to end on both sides, rinsing the flannel frequently. Wash each lath in clear cold water, and at once dry with a soft cloth. Then put a very little linseed oil on a pad of any soft material, and go over both sides of each lath (just enough to give a gloss to the surface). Then nail the tapes up wet, and replace the laths, leaving the blind down until the tapes are dry. This prevents them from shrinking, at the same time keeping them very straight.

BOOKS AND LETTERS (To clean).—When the leaves of books, note-paper, or letters have become ink-stained, they may be cleaned by pressing the spots with a piece of sponge dipped in oxalic acid and water. For the backs of leather-bound books a chamois leather will be found most efficacious in restoring the polish. If wax has been accidentally dropped on the leaves of a book, a thick piece of blotting paper should be doubled and laid on either side of the waxed page, a hot iron being then passed rapidly over the blotting paper until the wax is removed.

BOOKS AND MICE.—Books stored away temporarily in a wooden box are apt to be damaged by mice unless due precautions are taken. The box should be strongly made, with a well-fitting lid, or, failing this, thick layers of newspapers should be placed over the books and pushed down well at the sides. Cayenne pepper should then be sprinkled over the newspapers.

BOOKS (Grease marked).—If the leaves of a book have become stained with grease, the spots should be damped with a little benzine. A sheet of blotting paper should then be placed on both sides of the page, and a hot iron passed over the top. If necessary, this should be repeated until the stains have disappeared. As benzine is highly inflammable, this operation should be done during the day-time and not near any light.

BOOKS (To preserve).—To preserve books from damp, and possible mildew, a few drops of good perfumed oil should be sprinkled in the book-cases. This precaution is unnecessary in the case of volumes bound in Russia leather, as this is not susceptible to damp.

BOOKS, WHEN SMOKE-BLACKENED.—If books are only blackened with smoke, they may be cleaned with bread-crumbs. Cut a few slices from a loaf about a day old, lay the book that is to be cleaned on a table, crumble a part of the bread over the book, and rub firmly with the open hand. This should remove the smoke stains. The covers can be washed afterwards. Leather covers should be washed with water into which a little flour paste, and also a few drops of oxalic acid, have been mixed. Cloth covers should be washed with glair, which is made by beating up the white of an egg to a stiff froth and allowing to settle. Use a sponge with both liquids, and wash carefully.

BOTTLES (To clean).—Bottles of any description, or wine decanters which have become stained, can be simply and effectually cleaned with Vim. Place a little Vim into the bottles, which have been previously filled three-quarters full with luke-warm water, and shake up and down until all the stains disappear.

BRASS BEDSTEADS (To polish).—Brass lacquered bedsteads should on no account be polished with metal polish, as the acid it contains is likely to destroy the lacquer. Wash the bedstead with Sunlight Soap and water and then rub well with a dry chamois leather. Bedsteads treated in this way retain their brightness for many years.

BRASS (Chased, to clean).—Powder should never be used to clean wrought or chased brass. First wash the articles well with Sunlight Soap, and then dry them. Next rub over the surface with half a freshly-cut lemon. When quite clean, rinse thoroughly in warm water, let it dry, and polish with a chamois leather. Indian brass-work may also be cleaned in the same manner.

BRASS (Discoloured).—Brass which is discoloured should be rubbed briskly with a wet cloth, upon which a little "Powder Monkey" has been sprinkled. Then polish with a dry, soft cloth.

BRASS (To prevent tarnishing).—To prevent brass from tarnishing, dissolve half an ounce of shellac in half a pint of methylated spirit. Cork tightly, leave till next day, and then pour off the clear liquid. Heat the brass slightly, and paint the solution over with a camel-hair brush.

BRIGHT HOMES (To make).—For making and keeping the home bright and cheerful, nothing is better than Monkey Brand, which cleans and polishes at the same time. It may be used with equal advantage for cleaning and polishing either ornamental or culinary articles, and has no objectionable grease. Monkey Brand for a thousand household uses—cleaning, scrubbing, scouring, polishing. Makes Tin like Silver, Copper like Gold, Brass like Mirrors. It is rapid and easy, and will clean a house from roof to cellar, but *Won't Wash Clothes.* To suit those who prefer a cleanser and polisher in powder form, Monkey Brand is now prepared as a powder under the name of Powder Monkey. Everything that Monkey Brand will do is accomplished by Powder Monkey with equally brilliant results. Powder Monkey is sold in tins with convenient sprinkler lids.

BRITANNIA METAL.—Britannia Metal requires different treatment from pewter or silver. After it has been well cleaned in the usual way it should be rubbed gently all over with a woollen cloth dipped in sweet oil and then immersed in warm soap-suds made from Lux. Use boiling water to dissolve the Lux. After it has been dried with a soft cloth, the article should be rubbed with powdered whiting and polished with a clean chamois leather.

BROOMS (How to treat).—Before using a new broom, steep it in warm water for a few minutes. The dry fibres of a broom are brittle and likely to snap. Always keep brushes and brooms hanging up. They soon spoil if left standing on the floor. Soft brooms last much longer if they are dipped weekly into a pail of boiling soap-suds made from Sunlight Soap. This precaution makes them hard, yet pliable, and much more effective in collecting and brushing up dust.

CANDLE ECONOMY.—If candles are kept some six weeks or two months before use, they will give a better light and burn more slowly than if used when quite new. When candles are used for lighting the dinner-table, the wax may be prevented from dropping by placing the candles in ice for two or three hours previously. A candle can be used to the end by proceeding as follows:—Shape a cork to fit the candlestick, and drive a nail up through the centre so that half an inch protrudes above the top. Push the candle firmly down on the nail-point and you will find it will burn to the end. No candles burn brighter than Hodgson and Simpson's Bull's Eye Aerated Wax Candles.

CEILINGS (To clean).—To clean a whitewashed ceiling, mix starch and water into a paste and apply it to the ceiling with a piece of soft flannel. Leave it to dry and then brush off lightly with a brush. The blackness will come off with the starch, and the ceiling will be most satisfactorily cleaned. Ceilings which have become blackened with smoke may be cleaned with a cloth wrung out in "Handy Ann" and water. Soap should not, under any conditions, be used in the process.

CEILINGS (To prevent peeling).—Ceilings that look very rough and have a tendency to peel should be gone over with a solution of one ounce of alum to one quart of water. This will remove the superfluous lime and render the ceiling white.

CEILINGS (To Whitewash).—Procure a pennyworth of Paris white, and a halfpennyworth of powder blue, scald it overnight with a quart of boiling water, and in the morning add a quart of skimmed milk (which makes it work beautifully smooth, leaving no streaks), and well mix it. It is not necessary to have any particular method of applying it, so long as there are no bare patches left and the ceiling is equally covered. Should any be splashed on the wall-paper, there will be no difficulty in rubbing it off with a duster, leaving no stain behind.

CHIMNEYS (When on fire).—When your chimney is on fire, get some newspapers and soak them in water; then put them on the fire in the grate, and the steam will quickly draw down the fire in the chimney and put it out.

CHINA (To dust).—A silk handkerchief will be found most useful for dusting old china, the silk being not only much softer and more amenable where delicate handling is required, but more efficacious than cotton for collecting dust. One or two feathers are a necessity where figures, intricate tracery, and filigree china are concerned, the tips being dipped in warm water and worked into the design so as to prevent the accumulation of dust in the crevices.

CHINA (To pack without breaking).—When packing china and glass-ware, always use newspapers. First place in the bottom of the barrel or basket a thick layer of newspaper, then roll each article in paper, place it neatly in the barrel, stuff paper in between and around the pieces so that they cannot move; then place another layer of paper, and so on until full.

CHINA (To repair).—For repairing china and filling small holes, cracks, etc., take a lump of quicklime and reduce it to a fine powder, mix a little water with this to form a stiff paste, and then add a portion of the white of an egg, to reduce it to a creamy stiffness. Mix well with a knife, and quickly apply the paste to the damaged parts, smoothing it on the outside with the knife after the hole or crack has been well filled in and pressed to make the paste perfectly solid. It will set white and hard as the china itself.

CLOCKS, BLACK MARBLE (To clean).—Rub on to the marble some black boot polish; then, before dry, rub gently with a clean rag. After the second dressing, it should be bright enough to see one's face in it.

CLOCKS (Kerosene for).—If a "grandfather's" clock needs cleaning, put a piece of cotton-wool saturated with kerosene on the floor of it, and the fumes rising will loosen the dirt, and give the wheels a new lease of life.

COAL BILL (To reduce).—Purchase a twopenny fire-brick at an ironmonger's. When the fire is burning brightly in the evening, or during the day when not required for cooking, place the brick on the top of the burning cinders. It will soon get hot, and will send out a pleasant heat, keeping the fire in for a long time.

COAL (Care of).—Coal is best when kept in the dark. Its nature changes under the influence of light, especially under strong sunlight. It becomes friable, that is to say, it crumbles easily and is less able to give out strong heat when burnt. Salt spread over the coal heap prevents undue drying.

COAL (To save).—In order to make half a ton of coal go as far as fifteen hundredweight, place a quantity of chalk in the back of the grate. Once heated, this is practically inexhaustible from combustion, and gives out great heat.

COCKROACHES (To get rid of).—Cucumber peel has been found to be very efficacious in ridding the house of cockroaches. It should be scattered round the kitchen in the evening, particularly in the corners of the room. The insects soon discover the peel, which in their case acts as poison. Another way of getting rid of cockroaches is to mix together half a pint of carbolic acid and a quarter of a pint of borax. When dissolved, sprinkle it in places where the insects are seen. Use Lifebuoy Soap for washing floors, cupboards, etc.

CORKS (Use for).—Old corks, if soaked in paraffin, make excellent firelighters. One cork placed among the sticks will set the fire going merrily in a few minutes.

CRICKETS (To get rid of).—To get rid of crickets, take one pound of chloride of lime, add to this one pint of water in which half an ounce of borax has been dissolved. Pour this mixture into crevices between the hearth and flooring, and the pests will disappear. A little ginger cordial placed in a dish before the fire will attract crickets, and on partaking of the liquor they will die. The best mode of destroying the insects in their nests is to put snuff into the chinks of the grate.

CUPBOARDS (Care of).—The cupboard is apt to be a lurking place for all kinds of evil germs. Housewives will do well to turn out all cupboards frequently, have them well scoured with Lifebuoy Soap, keep them open and exposed to light and air until quite dry, and replace the contents dusted and brushed. Shelves should be loose, that they may be removed, scrubbed, aired, and re-lined with fresh paper. This practice is likely to bring to light all kinds of useful and forgotten things. Some small pieces of Lifebuoy Soap should be kept in the cupboards constantly. They are an effective insecticide, and will keep away moths, cockroaches, etc. Lifebuoy Soap should not, however, be placed in closed larders where food is stored; the food might take the odour of the disinfectant. Cupboards are a great boon in the house, and they can hardly be too roomy or too many; but they must be kept well disinfected and clean.

CURTAIN HOOKS (To clean).—Curtain hooks often get rusty and out of condition. A good way to clean them is to put them in a little water with some ammonia (just a little lump) dissolved in it. Leave the hooks to soak a little while, and the dirt and rust will disappear. After wiping with a cloth, the hooks will be as good as new.

CURTAINS, LACE (To mend).—Lace curtains can be mended very neatly by taking strips of net, or good parts of old curtains, and dipping them into hot starch. Apply these pieces to the worn places in the curtains while the starch is hot, and they will adhere and not show as much as darns.

CURTAINS, PLUSH (To clean).—Take a plate full of salt, dry it thoroughly, crush fine; then lay the curtains flat on an uncarpeted floor. Take a handful of salt, lay it thickly on a piece of the plush about a foot square, and rub the piece thoroughly with the flat hand the same way as the pile, until the salt gets black; treat all the curtains the same way; then take out of doors, and thoroughly shake out all the salt. After brushing, the curtains will be found equal to new.

CURTAINS (To clean).—Glazed chintz curtains never look the same after they have been washed, and the proper process of "dressing" is so expensive that it is delayed as long as possible. "Dressing" may be obviated by cleaning the curtains from time to time with warm, dry bran, rubbed well in

with a piece of flannel and left for some hours before it is brushed out. Silk curtains may also be kept clean by this process, though if they are once allowed to become thoroughly soiled, it is not sufficiently efficacious.

DISTEMPER, WASHABLE.—For a washable distemper, take eleven pounds of whiting, eleven pounds of fine Paris white, one gallon of linseed oil, two gallons of skim milk, twenty pounds of quicklime (slaked to a thin cream with water), one pound of alum, and four pounds of glue dissolved in hot water. Another distemper consists of eleven pounds of whiting, twenty pounds of quicklime (slaked as above), one gallon of linseed oil, one pound of alum, and four pounds of glue (previously dissolved in water). Thin with plain water. This distemper can be coloured to taste.

DOOR PLATES (To keep bright).—Vim is a capital polisher for this purpose.

DOOR-STOP.—A disused cotton spool can be turned to account in a useful manner by covering it with a piece of felt and screwing it firmly into the floor as a means of preventing a door from opening too wide.

DRIED GRASSES, PAMPAS, &c. (To clean).—Dissolve the half of a tablet of Sunlight Soap in two quarts of boiling water; pour into a basin and beat to a strong lather with a wire egg-beater or a bundle of birch twigs; *use while warm.* Hold the grass by the stem in the left hand, dip it into the soap liquor and squeeze it through the right hand, using a very moderate degree of pressure. Continue this operation until the grass is perfectly clean and white, using a second solution of Sunlight Soap if necessary. Rinse in tepid water. Another method is to make a lather with Sunlight Soap, swish the heads well in it, and shake before the fire till dry.

FEATHER PILLOWS (To renovate).—Feather pillows may be renovated in the following manner:—A large pan or boiler half full of water should be brought to boiling point, and the pillow placed on the top until thoroughly impregnated with the steam; it must then be hung in the wind to dry, and shaken and beaten from time to time.

FIRE BACK CEMENT.—The stone at the back of a stove often becomes cracked with age. Fill up the cracks with cement made with wood ashes and common salt; mix well together, add a little water, and knead into a stiff paste. The cement should be pressed into the holes with an old knife, and in course of time it will become quite hard.

FIRE-IRONS, LACQUERED (To clean).—Brass fire-irons which have been lacquered over should never be cleaned with vinegar and water, or with ordinary brass-polishing paste. The best method of renewing the gloss is simply that of dipping them in warm water and rubbing them with a piece of flannel. After drying them in a warm place, rub with a dry chamois leather until they are once more bright.

FIREPLACES, TILED (To polish).—The German method of polishing tiled fireplaces is to apply a mixture of equal parts of turpentine and linseed oil. Into this mixture is dipped a stiff, hard brush, and the whole surface of the tiling is vigorously gone over with it, finishing with a soft, clean duster. The mixture must not be applied when the fire is burning.

FIRE (To keep in).—To ensure a nice fire after an evening's absence, mend the fire on departure, and place on top of the coal a handful of salt. On arriving home, just stir with the poker, and a nice red fire will result.

FIRE (To lay).—To lay a fire that will burn quickly, crumple the paper lightly into masses the size of your fist, and with them cover the bottom of the grate. Then build the wood in a wide cone—wig-wam fashion—resting it against the back of the grate, piling the coal all round in small pieces. This recipe is infallible—the cone is the secret.

FLIES (A cure for).—If you wring a sponge out of cold water and rub it well along all the wooden parts of the windows every morning in the fly season, you will not be troubled with flies. It kills the eggs and acts quickly.

FLIES (To get rid of).—Cloves are most useful in ridding a room of flies. Bags of coarse, open muslin should be made, filled with a dozen or more cloves, and hung on the lamp or electric light brackets, window hasps, or in any place to which flies are naturally attracted. A few used tea-leaves, dried, and burnt on a hot shovel, will completely rid a house of all

flies and the majority of other insects. Cold green tea, very strong and sweetened with sugar, will, when set about a room in saucers, attract flies, and destroy them. This is a very inexpensive and easy method.

FLOWERS BY POST.—Flowers which have come by post should be put in water immediately and left in the dark for a few hours. This will give them time to revive, after which the stems should be cut and they can be arranged as required.

FLOWERS (To keep fresh).—The following little hint is recommended for keeping cut flowers fresh: Put the flowers in lukewarm water as soon as possible after gathering them, and, before arranging them in vases, cut the ends of the stalks horizontally and add a pinch of salt or borax to the water in each vase. This prolongs the life of the flowers considerably. Fresh water should, of course, be given every day, and the stalks should also be cut daily. Wired bouquets for evening wear may be kept fresh for a few days if, after they are removed from the dress, the stalks are at once wrapped in wet cotton wool. Put the bouquets into tin boxes, the lids closed down, and place the boxes in a dark cupboard.

FLY-MARKS (To remove from bronze).—For removing fly-marks from bronze, apply a mixture consisting of one drachm of lavender oil, one ounce of alcohol, and one and a half ounces of water, with a soft sponge. Work on the metal quickly, and avoid rubbing as much as possible.

GAS GLOBES, GLASS (To fit).—In fitting gas globes, it is a common practice to screw them on the gas fixture as tightly as possible. This is a grave error, for if the globe has not room to expand, it will surely break when the gas is lighted, and the glass becomes hot. This is the cause of many mysterious breakages.

GAS LEAK (To stop).—Localize the leak by applying strong Sunlight Soap suds to the suspected places. The leak will show by bubbles forming. It may then be stopped by pressing a small piece of hard soap on the place. If much gas has escaped, open the windows, and don't use a light.

GAS-SAVING HINT.—Unscrew the connection from the gas bracket and then put a little cotton-wool into the pipe (not too tightly) and connect again. You will then have a clearer light and burn less gas.

GAS STOVES (Polisher for).—A sheet of newspaper, made into a ball, serves as an excellent polisher for gas stoves, both on the score of economy as well as on account of the satisfactory result which may be obtained. Use in the same way as a brush.

GLASS, GROUND (To imitate).—To imitate ground glass is a simple matter. Take a piece of soft putty and tie it closely in a piece of cheese-cloth. Pat the plain glass with this till every part of it is covered with a thin coating. Let it dry, and then brush over the putty one coat of white varnish. This will make it possible to clean the window without removing the putty. Another method of imitating ground glass is to apply to the window a strong solution of Epsom salts to which a little gum has been added. This may be easily renewed as often as desired, but it is not so durable as the putty.

GLASS STOPPERS (To loosen).—To loosen a glass stopper, pour round it a little sweet oil close to the mouth of the bottle, and lay it near the fire; afterwards wrap a thick cloth round the end of a stick, and strike the stopper gently, when it will come out. Another method is to pass a strip of woollen cloth round the neck of the bottle, and see-saw it backwards and forwards. This friction heats and causes the neck to expand, so that the stopper becomes loose.

GLASS (To remove paint-marks from).—Paint-marks on glass may be removed by moistening them with a strong solution of "Handy Ann" in hot water, which will loosen the paint. The stains must be rubbed vigorously, and when they are removed the glass should be polished with a little methylated spirit and a soft cloth.

GLASS (To remove scratches from).—To remove slight scratches from plate-glass, first clean the injured surface by rubbing it with a pad of cotton-wool. Then cover the pad with a layer of cotton velvet, well charged with fine rouge, and this, when rubbed over the surface, will not only remove the scratches, but will add a new lustre to the glass.

GLOBES, GROUND GLASS (To clean).—Ground glass globes may be successfully cleaned with Sunlight Soap and water to which a little salts of lemon has been added. This will serve to remove the grease which may have collected in

the interstices of the groundwork or pattern, and which is impervious to soap and water and soda. After the globes have been washed carefully, they should be held under the tap for a moment or two, and then allowed to drain till dry. They should on no account be dried with a cloth.

GLOBES, LAMP (To clean).—Dissolve Sunlight Soap in the water in which the globes are to be washed. After washing, the glass should be well rinsed in cold water, and then set to drain where the water can run off, and the globes will dry rapidly.

GLUES THAT RESIST MOISTURE.—A glue cement that resists moisture is made by mixing with the least possible quantity of water one part glue, one part resin, and quarter part red ochre. Another glue which resists moisture is made of one pint glue melted in two quarts of skimmed milk. Add powdered chalk to make it stronger. A marine glue is made of one part of indiarubber, twelve parts naphtha. Heat gently, mix, and add twenty parts of powdered shellac. Pour out on a slab to cool. When used, it has to be heated to about 250 degrees Fahrenheit.

GRATE PRESERVER.—Make a strong paste of lime and water, and with a fine brush smear it as thickly as possible over all the polished surface. By this simple means all the grates and fire-irons of an unoccupied house may be kept for months free from harm.

GRATES, RUSTY (To clean).—To clean a rusty grate, rub it well over with rather soft blacklead, and leave it for a day or two. The damp blacklead will remove the rust, and the grate may then be re-blackened and polished.

GREASE BALLS.—Dry cloth balls for extracting grease may be made by taking half a pound of dry Vinolia fuller's earth and moistening it with a little lemon juice. Then add half an ounce of finely pulverised pearl ash and work into a thick paste. Roll into small balls and set them in the sun or at a little distance from the fire to dry. In a few hours they will be ready for use. When required, the stained cloth should be moistened with warm water and rubbed with the balls. Place in the sun to dry, and then brush off the powder or wash out, if necessary.

HEARTHSTONE HINT.—Rough hearthstone, baked in the oven for a day or two, lasts longer and makes steps whiter, and does not rub off quickly.

HEAT (CHEAP).—Although fires are not so much required in summer-time, it is occasionally necessary to heat the house on a chilly evening. The following is a particularly easy and efficacious method of doing this. Get an ordinary flat, hollow terra-cotta brick, plunge it into kerosene for a few seconds, ignite it, and it will burn for about three-quarters of an hour, throwing out great heat at infinitesimal cost.

HINGES THAT CREAK (Remedy for).—If an oil-can is not at hand to remedy a creaking hinge, the noise can often be stopped by using a soft lead pencil. Moisten the lead point and rub it into all the cracks and crevices that can be reached.

HOT WATER BOTTLE (Substitutes for).—A hot sand-bag may be made to take the place of the hot water bottle. Heat the sand in the oven, and, when wanted, fill a calico bag, wrapping one end well over to keep the sand in. Then slip the bag inside an outer covering of flannel made with a draw-string. A brick is another substitute for a hot water bottle. Wash a common brick, and then let it get perfectly dry on the kitchen stove. It can afterwards be easily made hot by putting it in the oven for a few minutes. It should be put into a bag made of felt or thick flannel before being placed in the bed, where it will remain hot for hours.

HOT WATER BOTTLE (To mend).—To mend an india-rubber hot water bottle, get some patching-rubber, as used for bicycle tyres, and a small tube of solution. Thoroughly clean with sand-paper the place to be occupied by the patch. Smear a thin coating of solution over the cleaned part, as well as over the surface of the patch. Allow two minutes before putting on the patch, which should be pressed tightly into position. The bottle will then be as good as new.

HOUSE CLEANING.—House cleaning can be made a comparatively easy matter by the regular use of Sunlight Soap, the remarkable cleansing powers of which will save hours of labour. Sunlight Soap will restore to their original freshness Painted Walls and Woodwork, Marble, Floors,

Linoleums, and Oil Cloths. Common soaps and soft soaps are usually too highly chemicalized to be used on such articles. Experienced housekeepers have proved Sunlight Soap to be the most effectual and economical cleanser in every department of the house.

HOUSEHOLD CLEANING (General).—For general household cleansing and polishing (tables, floors, marble, tiles, crockery, steel, iron, brass, copper, etc., etc.), Vim, used according to the directions on the tin, will be found invaluable, and will brighten the home, while saving much labour.

HOUSEHOLD CLEANSER (Lux as a).—In addition to its invaluable properties for Laundry purposes and for washing dainty fabrics, Lux is a most excellent cleansing preparation for use in Kitchen, Pantry, Bathroom, for the Toilet, and generally throughout the household. Here are a few of its uses—for Softening Hard Water, for Shampooing, for washing Silver and Cutlery, Crockery and Enamel, Glass-ware, Porcelain, Mother-of-Pearl, for painted surfaces, for cleaning Straw Hats, etc., etc.

HOUSES SMOKY (Remedy for).—Much unpleasantness is caused, especially in small houses, when the wind is in certain quarters, by smoke coming down the chimney and filling the room. A simple remedy is to open the window about an inch in the room above that in which the fire smokes. This causes the smoke to go up the chimney instead of puffing down into the room.

INCANDESCENT BURNERS (To clean).—First remove the shade or globe, then lift off the remaining parts altogether, and stand on the table. Next take off the chimney with a very steady hand, and clean with methylated spirits. This done, take a hat-pin and put it about half-way through the cord at the top of the mantle. Lift off steadily, and place each end of the pin on the sides of a tumbler, the mantle hanging down inside the glass. Then take out the fork, and blow through the burner, or brush with a soft brush. The removing of the mantle is the most delicate work, and should be performed in a room free from draught, or the mantle will break. When all is clean, put every part back carefully, and a bright light will be the result.

INCANDESCENT MANTLES, BROKEN (Use of).—Economical housekeepers will find it worth while to save broken incandescent mantles. They answer admirably for cleaning silver, especially for deeply-chased articles. Reduce the mantles to a powder, and apply the latter with a small brush. Afterwards polish with a leather.

INCANDESCENT MANTLES (To renew).—To renew incandescent mantles, take off the burner and mantle as they stand, put them on an old plate, and pour a few drops of methylated spirit over the mantle. Light as when new, and the mantle will burn like a new one.

INCANDESCENT MANTLES (Why they break).—Incandescent gas mantles frequently break because the match is applied too soon. The match should never be struck before turning on the gas, so that the latter may have time to envelop the mantle before it is lighted. It is not generally known that by putting a new mantle over the old one, the life of the former is considerably lengthened, and a much better light obtained.

INSECTS (To expel).—All insects dislike pennyroyal, the smell of which destroys some, and expels others. Get oil of pennyroyal and steep some wadding in it, then place it in the corners, boxes, and bedsteads; and ants, beetles, and other insects will soon disappear.

IRON, CRACKS IN (To fill).—If a crack appears in the iron moulding of a grate or fender, it can be effectually filled up by making a mixture of salt, water, and wood ashes, and forcing this into the crack. The proportion of four ounces of salt to half a pound of wood ashes should be measured out, and the two ingredients made into a paste with a little water. When dry, the mixture will be found to be perfectly hard.

IRON RUST (To remove).—Iron rust may be removed by rubbing Oxalis (wood sorrel) over the rusty places, and then washing in alcohol. Finish by a good scrubbing with warm soap-suds. Powder Monkey also will quickly remove rust from iron, brass, copper, tin, etc.

IRON-WORK, FANCY (To polish).—Boil a quarter of a pound of the best blacklead in one pint of small beer, and add a bit of Sunlight Soap about the size of a walnut. Apply this to the iron-work with a paint brush. Then take a hard brush and rub it until it becomes glossy.

IVORY (Test for).—It is almost impossible to detect by sight the difference between ivory and a well-made celluloid imitation. Real ivory has a polish and coolness not found in celluloid, but it requires experience to detect it by touch. A sure test is to rub the article with alcohol. Celluloid will then give off an odour like camphor, and, if more alcohol is applied, it will lose its polish. If no alcohol is obtainable, rub the article well with a hot rag. It will have the odour of camphor if it is celluloid.

LAMP CHIMNEYS (To preserve).—To prolong the life of lamp chimneys, the following process should be carried out:—Wrap the new glass chimneys loosely in tissue paper, place them, standing on end, in a tin pail containing sufficient cold water to cover the glass; place the pail on the stove, and bring the water slowly to boiling point; allow it to boil for a few minutes, then remove the pail from the stove, and let the water cool slowly. As a result of this, the chimneys will be rendered more durable.

LAMP WICKS (Treatment of).—New lamp wicks frequently have a disagreeable smell when they are first used. To prevent this, it is a good plan to soak them for a few hours previously in a little hot vinegar, and then hang them in the air to dry. Lamp wicks should never be cut unless they have become much charred, owing to the want of oil in the reservoir. A better plan is to rub the wick with a wisp of kitchen paper, pressing down the edge so that, when lighted, the flame will burn evenly.

LEATHER, AMERICAN (To clean).—To clean American leather, slightly moisten a cloth with a mixture of equal parts of boiled linseed oil and vinegar, and with it rub the leather. Polish afterwards with an old silk handkerchief.

LIME WATER (Uses of).—To remove traces of petroleum from either vessels or materials, try lime water, which rapidly emulsifies it, and removes all traces of smell. Bottles that have contained petroleum can be quickly cleaned and rendered quite odourless if washed out with water and a little lime. Lamp reservoirs can also be cleaned quite easily in the same way.

LINEN TEST.—A reliable test for pure linen, which may be applied when investing in new sheets or table-cloths, is that of damping the material on the right side. If the moisture immediately sinks through to the reverse side, it is proof that the fabric is all linen, but if some time elapses before the damp shows through, the inference may be made that the sheet or table-cloth is either half cotton mixed with linen, or simply cotton, with a very high gloss to simulate linen.

MARBLE (To clean, or remove spots from).—Use Monkey Brand, according to directions inside the wrapper.

MATCHES (To waterproof).—Into some melted Waxaw (which should be as cool as possible, without solidifying), dip the matches, withdraw, and allow to cool. It will be found that the matches will ignite almost as easily as before they were coated. After being treated in the above manner, it is impossible for damp to affect the matches.

MICE (To drive away).—A harmless and cleanly way of driving away mice is to saturate a cloth with cayenne pepper in solution and stuff it in the hole. A preventative against their ravages in the kitchen or pantry is to sprinkle cayenne pepper freely on the shelves or where food is kept. Where mice frequent a bedroom, it is well to keep pieces of camphor among clothes in drawers or in the wardrobe. The smell of peppermint is also obnoxious to mice, and a little oil of peppermint placed about their holes will soon make them look for other quarters.

MOTHS' EGGS (Destruction of).—Wholesale destruction may be made of moths' larvæ and eggs by pouring hot vinegar into a red-hot pan set on hot bricks in the room. The door should be shut as soon as the vinegar hisses upon the pan, and not opened again all day.

NIGHTLIGHTS (Substitute for).—If you run short of nightlights, try this plan:—Take an ordinary wax candle and some finely powdered salt. Burn the candle so as to get it level, and then cover the top with a layer of salt, leaving only the blackened end of the wick exposed. Light the candle, and it will burn very slowly, giving a faint, but steady light.

OAK, OLD (To clean).—Old oak that has been neglected should be washed in warm beer. Then, when dry, wash it again all over with a soft brush with the following mixture:—One quart of beer in which a tablespoonful of sugar, and a piece of beeswax the size of a walnut, have been boiled. Leave this to dry; then polish with a soft cloth.

ORNAMENTS, BRONZE (To clean).—In order to clean bronze ornaments, dip them in boiling water, then rub well with a piece of flannel, wrung out in Sunlight soap-suds. Dry well with a soft duster, and polish with a chamois leather.

ORNAMENTS, IVORY (To clean).—Wash them with a small brush in Lux solution, first dissolving the Lux with boiling water; place them wet in the sunshine, then wash them again, and they become beautifully white.

ORNAMENTS, NICKEL (To clean).—The simplest way to clean nickel ornaments is to saturate a woollen rag with spirits of ammonia, and afterwards polish with a dry leather.

PAINT, FINGER-MARKED (To clean).—Unsightly finger-marks on paint can be removed with a soft flannel wrung out of water in which a few drops of ammonia have been mixed. Then rub with Sunlight Soap. Having removed the marks, the paint should be washed with clear water, and thoroughly dried. Vim or Powder Monkey gently applied on a thoroughly damp cloth will quickly remove finger-marks.

PAINT GRAINED (To preserve).—Take a piece of flannel, and soak it in a little linseed oil, then rub it on the paint, and polish with a soft cloth. This method preserves the paint and makes it look as though it had been newly grained.

PAINT (To remove from steps).—When a house is being done up, any paint spilled on door-steps is sometimes very difficult to remove. In that case, make a strong solution of potash, and wash the steps, leaving the solution to soak in. In a short time the paint will become soft, and can be washed off with Monkey Brand Soap and water. Paint that has been left on for some time will yield to this treatment.

PAINT, WHITE (To clean).—Vim will be found exceedingly useful for cleaning white paint or enamel, but care must be taken that the powder is thoroughly moistened, and that

the paint is only rubbed gently. Thoroughly moisten the powder, and apply it very lightly with a wet flannel or brush, then wipe the article dry, and polish with a clean cloth.

PAPERHANGER'S PASTE.—Place sufficient flour in a large basin, add a little water, and stir until a stiff batter is formed. Thin with cold water, but do not use too much. Be sure the mixture is free from lumps, then add boiling water, pouring it in slowly and stirring vigorously in one direction meanwhile. When the paste begins to thicken, it is ready, but must not be used hot. Sometimes a teaspoonful of ground alum to two quarts of paste is added to stiffen it and prevent sourness, but alum must not be used in paste for ingrain or "gold" papers. A few drops of oil of cloves may be added to the paste to preserve it.

PAPERHANGING HINT FOR AMATEURS.—A good hint for those who do their own paperhanging is to apply the paste to the wall, instead of to the paper. Amateurs will find it much easier to match the pattern, and the paper is less liable to tear, this method also saving time and trouble.

PAPERING LIME-WASHED WALLS.—If lime or white-washed walls are washed over with vinegar before being papered, it will prevent the lime taking the colour out of the paper.

PAPER, VARNISHED (To clean).—Varnished paper is best cleaned with a piece of flannel dipped in fairly weak cold tea. Then rub with a dry, soft cloth.

PENCIL-MARKS (To remove).—Pencil-marks on paint or woodwork can be removed by rubbing the spots with a freshly-cut lemon, and afterwards with whiting and a soft cloth.

PLANTS, INDOOR (Care of).—Indoor plants, such as ferns and palms, often harbour ants, caterpillars, and other parasites. Lifebuoy Soap is the remedy. A solution sprayed well over stem and leaves will be found effective, and keep the plant healthy. Fungi, aphis, and other ailments of plant life, causing their decay, may also be prevented by the use of Lifebuoy Soap. With an ordinary spray, saturate the plant all over; be sure that it is embedded in good loam, and give sufficient light, air, and water.

PLASTER-OF-PARIS (To clean).—To clean goods made of plaster-of-paris, cover them with a thin coating of starch, and allow this to become perfectly dry. Then it may be brushed off, and the dirt with it.

PORCELAIN (To clean).—Shake a little Vim on to a wet flannel or brush, or on to the article to be cleaned, and rub briskly with the wet brush or flannel. Then wash or wipe off, and dry with a clean cloth.

PORCELAIN (To repair).—For repairing porcelain or marble, a waterproof cement is made by mixing plain white glue and milk. Apply in the ordinary way, being careful that the surfaces are perfectly clean.

REPOUSSÉ WORK (Care of).—Difficulty is sometimes experienced in the case of fine repoussé brass-work, in ridding the interstices of the dust which may have accumulated. A good plan is that of dipping an old toothbrush in strong ammonia, and working the bristles well into the incisions. If rinsed once in warm water, dipped into Sunlight Soap-suds, and then rinsed once more in lukewarm water, the result should be satisfactory, a clean rag or leather being used with which to polish the article.

ROOM (How to sweep).—Begin sweeping the dark corners and edges of the carpet, and sweep towards the centre of the room. Sometimes, it is necessary to use a small brush to get the dust from the corners. Always sweep from you, keeping the broom close to the dust, and give short strokes. Then, when the dust has been collected in the dust-pan, go over the carpet with a patent carpet-sweeper. Finally, dip a cloth in tepid water and ammonia, wring it out as dry as possible, and wipe the carpet with the cloth. This will freshen the carpet in a wonderful way. The room should air for at least half-an-hour, so that the dust may finally settle. Remove all the dust-sheets and dust the furniture.

ROOM (To warm).—An easy and cheap way to warm a room is the following:—Put two or three bricks to warm in the kitchen oven. When very hot, place them in different parts of the room you desire to warm, and close the door. The bricks should be placed on old chairs and boxes, so as to be above the draught of the floor or fireplace.

RUST PREVENTIVE.—To prevent grates, boot-scrapers, etc., from rusting, take half an ounce of powdered camphor, and melt it before the fire into one pound of good lard. Add as much fine blacklead as is necessary to give it a dark colour. Clean the iron-work, then smear it over with this preparation. After twenty-four hours, the grease should be removed by rubbing the iron-work with a cloth. The grates will keep free from rust for months after an application of this preparation.

RUST (To remove).—Rust can be removed from steel fenders and fire-irons by the use of Powder Monkey according to directions.

SITTING-ROOMS (Care of).—Allow no furniture of any sort to be made fast to floor or wall, so as to ensure access to walls and skirtings for cleaning, and admission of light and air. The backs of pictures should be covered entirely with paper, that the back-boards may conceal no dirt; they can then easily be tilted from the wall, when a feather duster will remove all the dust. Hollow ornaments without tops should be provided with paper stoppers, and a scrap of Lifebuoy Soap should be left in each, to keep out dust and insects. Whenever the room can be spared for a short time, dust everything well, shake and beat the curtains gently, pull out all drawers, move the furniture from the walls, turn what you can bottom upward, raise the windows and let the air have free play. It really takes very little time, and the effects of this air-bath are as beneficial to health as they are pleasant.

SOAP, A FLOATING.—Swan White Floating Soap floats on the surface of the water in the bath, hand-basin, pail, or wash-tub. It is a clarified soap made from pure vegetable oils and fats, and will not injure the most delicate fabric, or fade coloured goods, while it makes linen white as snow. It gives a lustre to china and plate, and a health-glow to the skin.

SOAPS FOR THE HOUSEHOLD.—The following will be found invaluable in the household for the purposes mentioned, and will give the fullest satisfaction. Their use promotes the health and happiness of the home.

> SUNLIGHT SOAP.—For washing clothes without hard rubbing or boiling. Also excellent for all household cleansing for which soap can be used. £1,000 Guarantee of Purity on every bar.

LIFEBUOY SOAP.—For all household uses. Cleanses and disinfects at the same time, thus preventing disease and promoting health. Safe for the toilet; essential in the sick-room.

MONKEY BRAND.—For a thousand household uses—cleaning, scrubbing, scouring, polishing. Rapid and easy, and will clean a house from roof to cellar, but *Won't Wash Clothes.*

POWDER MONKEY.—Monkey Brand in powder form. Does the same work as Monkey Brand, with equally brilliant results.

LUX.—A pure cleansing preparation for use in laundry, kitchen, and for toilet purposes. Specially valuable for washing Flannels and Woollens without shrinking them. Unequalled for Laces and all delicate, dainty fabrics.

VIM.—A wonderful cleanser and polisher for all household purposes. Cleans and brilliantly polishes Kitchen Utensils, Metals, Glassware, and everything that should be bright. Quick and economical in use.

STAIR-RODS (To clean).—Clean stained stair-rods with Vim. Thoroughly moisten the powder and apply it very lightly with a wet flannel, then wipe the rods dry, and polish with a clean cloth.

STEPS (Colouring for).—A permanent colouring for door-steps is readily prepared as follows:—Take a pound of Venetian red, mix it with skim milk or sour milk to the thickness of cream. Apply with a cloth or brush, and the colour will keep fast for weeks, even in rainy weather.

STEPS, STONE (To clean).—The common method of cleaning stone steps with hearthstone or caked whiting not only gives them a smeary appearance, but the material washes off with a shower of rain. The following preparation both looks better, and, in the long run, saves labour, as twice a week is sufficient for using the whiting, on the remaining days the steps being washed. Take a gallon of water, and colour a deep blue with stone blue. Boil in it one pound of white size, dissolve in it a quarter of a pound of whiting and three cakes of pipeclay, stirring well. Wash the steps with this solution in a slight, quick manner, and finish with water in the usual way.

STOVE, ENAMELLED (To clean).—To clean a white enamelled stove, use Vim according to the directions on the tin.

STOVE-PIPE CLEANER.—A piece of zinc placed on the coals of a hot stove will clean out the stove-pipe. The vapour produced carries off the soot by chemical decomposition.

TOBACCO (To absorb the smell of).—A bowl of fresh water placed in a room overnight will absorb all the smell of tobacco from the evening's pipes and cigars, and prevent that stale smell in the morning which is so difficult to get rid of. At the same time, all ends of cigars and tobacco-ash should be cleared away before closing the room for the night. This is a simple precaution where a small house is concerned, and where the dining-room is used in lieu of a smoking-room.

TURPENTINE (Uses of).—A woollen cloth moistened with turpentine makes an excellent cleansing agent in the household, while linseed oil mixed with turpentine will remove white marks from mahogany furniture.

VARNISHING HINT.—To re-varnish woodwork that has been varnished previously, the best way of making a good job of it is to wash over the old varnish with stale beer, using a clean brush, and rubbing off with an old duster. Then varnish with "inside" oak varnish, covering evenly with a good brush, and the result will be brilliant.

WALL-PAPER (To clean).—The following is an excellent method of cleaning wall-paper, removing fly-marks, etc.:—Take one pound of flour, to which add one packet of Hudson's Dry Soap. Mix and add enough water to form a very stiff dough; divide this into balls of a convenient size, and rub lightly over the paper, beginning at the highest point and working round the room; begin again just below the part that has been done, and proceed in the same manner until the whole wall has been covered. As the face of the ball becomes dirty, the dirty paste should be turned in so as to constantly obtain a clean surface for the work. Care must be taken only to rub the wall lightly, as, if heavy pressure is used, the dirt will be rubbed in instead of off.

WALL-PAPER (To patch).—When patching wall-paper, never paste on a square piece. Tear the paper in an irregular shape, and the patch will defy detection.

WALL-PAPER (To protect).—To protect wall-paper when whitewashing, it is a very good plan to pin a border of ordinary paper, about four inches in width, round the walls at the ceiling. This will prevent the brush from touching the wall-paper, and, therefore, save a good deal of trouble. Another good idea, after finishing whitewashing, is to mix about a quart of flour with a little hot water in which has been dissolved a good handful of "Handy Ann"; stir or mix the flour until it becomes quite stiff, like putty. Use a small piece at a time to rub down the walls. After this has been done, the wall-paper will be quite free from dirt and splashes from the whitewash brush.

WALL-PAPER (To remove stains from).—Where wall-paper has been stained with grease, powdered French chalk should be used to remove the spot. The chalk must be enclosed in a piece of gauze or cheese-cloth, held against the wall over the stain, and then pressed with a very hot iron, this being repeated once or twice if the stain is an old one.

WALL-PAPER (To test).—Many of the cheap wall-papers —particularly green papers—contain arsenic, which is a poison and dangerous to health. The following is a test which is easily applied. Take a piece of the suspected paper, and dip it into a saucer containing strong spirits of ammonia. If arsenic is present, the green paper will gradually turn blue. If the colour changes only slightly, a little crystal of nitrate of silver (caustic) added to the ammonia in the saucer will cause a yellow sediment, showing that arsenic is present.

WALLS, STAINED (Remedy for).—A simple way to take stains and scratches from distempered walls is to first rub well with a piece of lemon. Then take a clean cloth dipped in whiting, and carefully go over the parts again. Finally wipe over with a cloth wrung out of clean cold water. This will take away all marks, and the stained parts will look as good as new.

WASPS (To keep out of houses).—To keep wasps from coming into the house in summer time, place a jar, with a little ammonia in it, near the doors and open window.

WINDOW-CLEANING HINT.—To clean and polish diamond-paned lattice windows, try the following method.— Stir a little kerosene into warm water, soak a pad of newspaper

in it, and squeeze almost dry, clean the pane with this, wipe dry with a soft cloth, and then polish with a pad of dry newspaper. Windows can be cleaned, even in frosty weather, by making a pad of newspapers, pouring on to it a little paraffin, and rubbing the glass with this, afterwards polishing with clean newspaper rolled up. Windows or looking-glasses thus cleaned in summer have a beautiful polish on them, and keep clean longer than when done in the usual way.

WINDOWS (Air Screen for).—Many people cannot sleep with the windows open at night in damp weather. A screen which will admit pure air and yet keep out damp can easily be made. Take thin flannel and fasten to a frame. Place this in the window when the sash is raised. In the morning the inside will be found dry, while the outside is wet, the air having filtered through.

WINDOWS (To obscure).—Procure a pennyworth of tissue paper, in assorted colours such as yellow, red, or green, and a little clear varnish. Put a thin coat of vanish on the window, then place upon it the paper, cut into any pattern desired. When the surface is covered, give another coat of varnish. When dry, the result will be a window resembling stained glass.

WINDOWS (To polish).—Use Vim, according to the directions on the tin, and windows will be beautifully clean and bright.

WOOD (To prevent swelling).—Dissolve, in a bottle containing half a pint of benzine, as much scraped Waxaw as will saturate the benzine. With this solution, coat the bare wood surface, in dry weather, by means of a brush. The benzine penetrates very quickly into the wood, and takes with it so much paraffin that the outer surface is rendered very smooth and quite slippery. This process is especially adapted for windows, doors, and drawers. Benzine is highly inflammable, and must not be brought near a fire or a light.

WOODWORK, UNPAINTED (To whiten).—To whiten any unpainted woodwork, there is nothing to excel Vim, used according to the directions on the tin. It may also be used for painted woodwork, but care is required in this case that the directions are closely followed, and that the paint is not rubbed too hard.

LAUNDRY.

BLACK SILK (To wash).—Black and fast-coloured silks, both China and Taffetas, can be successfully washed in the following way:—Have two pans of water, one nearly boiling and one cold; add to each a wineglassful of vinegar for every three quarts of water. The quantity of water depends on the number of articles, but use enough. Then, in a separate vessel, make a solution of Lux in boiling water, using a tablespoonful of Lux to every half-gallon of water required. Add the solution to the washing water, and wash the silk quickly and carefully, squeezing and working it up and down. Do not wring it. If it is very dirty, use another supply of suds. Rinse in the second pan of cold water and vinegar. Again press well to get rid of the water. To give gloss and stiffness, pass through a solution of gum arabic. The strength depends upon the sort of silk, but an ounce to a quart of boiling water is the average. Use it when cool. Fold the silk straight and wrap in a clean, dry cloth, ready for ironing.

BLANKETS (To wash).—Place some Lux in a vessel, allowing three or four tablespoonfuls for every gallon of water required, pour the water over it while boiling, and whisk into a lather. Put the blankets in and stir them about for a few minutes with a piece of smooth wood, then let them soak until the solution is cool enough to allow of the blankets being squeezed in the hands to expel the dirt. No rubbing is required. Rinse in two or three relays of tepid water, squeeze the water out without twisting, and hang in the open air. The quicker this is done the better. Blankets should on no account be boiled, but the water used should be boiling, or nearly so.

" BLUE " IN CLOTHES.—To prevent the blue in clothes from looking patchy, it is a wise plan to make a quart or two of water a good, deep blue, pouring enough of this into the blueing tub to obtain the required tint.

CHILDREN'S FROCKS (To make fireproof).—After washing children's frocks, rinse them out in a solution of alum and water. This will make them fireproof. A hot iron should never be pressed over any coloured embroidery on the frock, as this is apt to make the colours fade, and spoil the look of the garment.

CLOTHES (To bleach).—There is no easier or better way of bleaching, cleansing, and purifying clothes than by using Hudson's Omo. It is a scientific preparation which washes all white linen and cotton articles thoroughly, bleaches them snow-white, and cannot damage the finest fabric. No rubbing, no scrubbing, no hard work, no trouble. Simply boil for half-an-hour, let stand for half-an-hour to an hour, and rinse. The use of Omo ensures the least possible outlay of time, labour, and cost. Omo is not to be used for Colours, Woollens, or Flannels.

COLOURED ARTICLES (To wash).—Use Lux, according to directions given on packet.

COLOURS (To set).—In washing coloured dresses, the colours may be set by dissolving 10½ ozs. of salt in one gallon of hot water. Let the material stay in the water till cold. Treated in this way the colours will not fade. These garments should be ironed on the wrong side; this will do much towards restoring their freshness.

CRUST ON STARCH (To prevent).—It frequently happens, when working with boiling starch, that a crust forms on the surface, interfering with the dipping of the different articles, and rendering the stiffening somewhat patchy and uneven. To prevent this, all that is necessary is to sprinkle a few drops of cold water on to the starch from time to time, meanwhile giving it a good stir.

CURTAINS, BLUE MUSLIN (To wash).—If blue muslin curtains have not faded, they will probably wash well, as this is generally a good test of fastness of colour. As a rule, however, this tint in window muslin is very fleeting, and requires care. The safest way to wash is to use Lux according to directions given on the packet for washing Lace Curtains.

CURTAINS, ECRU (To wash).—Wash with Lux as directed for Lace Curtains (see below). After rinsing in clean water, rinse in water in which yellow ochre has been dissolved, the ochre to be put in flannel, and stirred in the water, in the same way as blue is used. Take care that the colour is even all over the curtains. Dry well before starching.

CURTAINS, LACE (To wash).—Lace curtains should be shaken to free them from dust, and soaked in cold water for a few hours before washing. Place some Lux in a vessel, allowing three or four tablespoonfuls for every gallon of water required, pour the water over it while boiling, and whisk into a lather. When the solution is cool enough to place the hands in with comfort, put in the curtains and squeeze them in the hands to expel the dirt. No rubbing is required. Rinse in two or three relays of tepid water, squeeze the water out without twisting, and hang in the open air. The quicker this is done, the better. Curtains should on no account be boiled, and the solution, when used, must not be hotter than described above.

CURTAINS (To starch).—The mistake is often made, when starching net or lace curtains, of dipping them in such a manner that the heavier portion, where the embroidery is thickest, tears away from the foundation. To avoid this, the curtains should be starched from the top towards the foot.

EIDER-DOWN QUILT (To wash).—Place some Lux in a vessel, allowing three or four tablespoonfuls for every gallon of water required, pour the water over it while boiling, and whisk into a lather. When the lather is cool enough to place the hands in with comfort, put in the quilt and squeeze it in the hands to expel the dirt. No rubbing is required. Rinse in two or three relays of tepid water, squeeze the water out without twisting, and hang in the open air. The quicker this is done, the better. The solution, when used, must not be hotter than the hands can bear with comfort. When dry, shake the quilt until it is quite soft and full.

FINE FABRICS (To wash).—There is nothing safer or better than Lux. Follow carefully the directions given on packet.

FLANNEL (How to wash New).—Place the flannel to be washed in a pan, pouring over sufficient boiling water to quite cover it. Let it remain until lukewarm, then wash with Lux, as directed on the packets. Hang out to dry. Flannels washed in this way are beautifully soft.

FLANNEL, SAXONY (To wash).—To wash Saxony flannel, use Lux, following carefully the directions given on the packet for washing Flannels.

FLANNELS (To restore Shrunken).—To restore shrunken flannels to their normal size, try laying the article to be restored on the ironing-board, and on it spread a piece of cheese-cloth which has been wrung out of cold water. Press with a hot iron until the cheese-cloth is perfectly dry. The garment will show a decided improvement. But those who use Lux for washing flannels will not be troubled with this difficulty.

FLANNELS (To wash).—Flannels are ruined by being washed with the rest of the clothes. They should be washed as follows:—Place some Lux in a vessel, allowing three or four tablespoonfuls for every gallon of water required, pour the water over it while boiling, and whisk into a lather. Place the flannels in and stir them about for a few minutes with a piece of smooth wood, then let them soak until the solution is cool enough to allow of the flannels being squeezed in the hands to expel the dirt. No rubbing is required. Rinse in two or three relays of tepid water, squeeze the water out without twisting, and hang in the open air. The quicker this is done, the better. Flannels should on no account be boiled, but the water used should be boiling, or nearly so.

FLAT-IRONS (Care of).—The best way to keep flat-irons free from rust between washing days is to rub them over with warm grease, and wrap them up in brown paper. When they are required again, they should be dipped in hot water and soda, and well rubbed. A piece of brown paper covered with powdered bathbrick is an invaluable thing on which to rub the irons when the ironing is in progress, in order to make them smooth. If the flat-irons become rusty, they should be rubbed with a mixture of beeswax and coarse kitchen salt.

GLAZE FOR LINEN.—An excellent glaze may be obtained by mixing one teaspoonful of melted Waxaw with each quarter-pound of hot starch.

HANDKERCHIEFS, CAMBRIC (To wash).—Use Lux, according to directions given on packet for washing Fine Fabrics.

HANDKERCHIEFS, POCKET (To whiten).—In washing pocket handkerchiefs at home, use Hudson's Omo, according to the directions on the packet. Rinse them well in plenty of clear water. Partly dry them in the air, roll them up tightly while damp, and iron them before they are dry. If the handkerchiefs dry thoroughly in the air before ironing time, roll them up in a damp cloth, or sprinkle them with water, so that they are not quite dry when ironed.

HANDKERCHIEFS, SILK (To prevent turning yellow when washed).—Use Lux, as directed on packet for washing Fine Fabrics.

HANDKERCHIEFS (To iron).—In ironing handkerchiefs, turn the embroidered initial, or mark, face downwards on to the board at the top right-hand corner. Iron the handkerchief all over, fold once from bottom to top, iron and then fold over again. Then fold over twice from left to right, ironing after every fold. Turn the handkerchief over with the embroidered corner upwards. Iron this carefully, and the process is then finished.

IRONING HINT.—When ironing collars, place a small round cake-tin in the oven, and put the collars in as they are ironed. This keeps them in a round shape, and they also stiffen through being put in a warm place. Keep the oven door open, so that it does not get too hot, and only leave the collars in for a few minutes.

IRONING PAD.—An excellent Ironing Pad may be made by putting melted Waxaw into a small vessel, and, when cool, taking it out and wrapping it in a piece of muslin. If the irons are rubbed occasionally on this, it will keep them bright, clean, and smooth.

LACE (To clean).—If the lace is very dirty, it may be put to soak overnight in clean cold water, but this is not absolutely necessary. Procure a wide-mouthed bottle, such

as a pickle or fruit bottle. Make a solution by briskly stirring one heaped tablespoonful of Lux into a gallon of boiling water. Put into the bottle the lace to be washed, and fill the bottle three parts full with the solution of Lux and water. Then shake the bottle vigorously; when the water becomes dirty, pour it out and refill the bottle with the Lux solution. Repeat this process until the lace is quite clean. Afterwards fill the bottle with warm water, shake it, repeat the rinsing as before, using warm water, until every vestige of Lux has disappeared. Everyone who has had experience in washing very fine and valuable old lace, and who knows how easily it is torn, will appreciate the value of this simple method of washing it without fear of injury. When clean, the lace should be hung to dry without squeezing or twisting. When dry, it may be smoothed by laying it between two cloths and ironing over the top one with a moderately hot iron.

LACE ARTICLES (To dry).—A good method of quickly drying small lace articles, such as collars, frills, cuffs, etc., is to pin them on to a flannel-covered board, and place it near the fire or in the sun. When nearly dry, remove the pins, cover with a cloth, and then iron. The articles should be pinned on the board, right side down, as lace should always be ironed on the wrong side, so as to raise the pattern, and prevent the lace from shining. Remember that lace should always be ironed *lightly*, not heavily, as when glazing linen.

LACE ARTICLES (To wash).—For washing white lace articles, Lux gives unequalled results. Make a lather with Lux, according to directions given on packet. Put the lace into the lather, and let it boil for ten minutes. Then throw into cold water, wring, rinse out, dry it in the air slightly, and iron it, while damp, on the wrong side.

LACE, COARSE (To wash a length of).—Tie a piece of flannel round a wine-bottle; then wind the lace smoothly round the flannel, fastening it here and there with a stitch. Make a solution by briskly stirring one heaped tablespoonful of Lux into a gallon of boiling water. Plunge the bottle into the solution, and gently rub the lace with the solution until clean. Rinse well and dry on the bottle, by standing the latter near the fire or in the sun.

LACE, VERY DIRTY AND DISCOLOURED (To wash).—First soak the lace for twelve or more hours in soft water (rain water, if possible). Make a solution by briskly stirring a little more than one heaped tablespoonful of Lux into a gallon of boiling water. Squeeze the lace out of the water in which it has soaked, and plunge it into the solution. Squeeze it in this until it is freed from dirt, then place it in an earthenware jar, and cover it with a fresh solution of Lux and water. Place the jar in a saucepan half full of boiling water, as the water must only boil round the jar and not cover it. The pan should have a well-fitting lid. Keep this on, and boil the lace for two hours. Take out, and then rinse well in hot water.

LAUNDRY (Sunlight Soap in the).—An easy way of washing, and one that gives wonderful results, is to use Sunlight Soap, as directed on the wrapper or packet. Sunlight Soap is so purifying and cleansing that the dirtiest clothing can be washed in *lukewarm* water with very little rubbing, and Clothes, Bedding, and Linen cleansed without either scalding or boiling, and with little labour. The "Sunlight" way of washing clothes does away with the hard work, offensive smell, and unhealthy steam on washing day; makes the white pieces whiter, coloured pieces brighter, and flannels softer than they can be made by washing in the old way, and also leaves every article as clean and sweet and as pure as if never worn. Sunlight Soap enables the weekly wash to be done easily, quickly, and thoroughly, and is so economical in use as to be within the reach of all. It requires no coals for boiling the clothes, no powders or other nostrums to do what laundry soap should do, and no blues to cover defective work. Sunlight Soap bears £1,000 Guarantee of Purity on every bar, and has the largest sale in the world.

LAUNDRY WORK (Disinfectant and Cleanser for).—When disinfection of clothes as well as cleansing is required, Lifebuoy Soap should be used for the wash. The clothes will then be thoroughly wholesome and sweet. Well aired after washing, the linen will lose all evidence of the disinfectant. Lifebuoy Soap is not only a sanitary soap. It is a laundry soap of the highest class, with a powerful disinfectant added, and is well qualified to do laundry work of every kind in the usual way. It is particularly suitable for washing linen used in cases of infectious disease.

LINEN, SCORCHED.—When linen articles have been slightly scorched, the marks may be removed by washing with Omo according to the directions given on the packet. If the scorch mark is not removed by one washing, repeat the operation. Soaking the material overnight in water in which Omo has been dissolved will facilitate the removal of the mark with one washing.

LINEN (To beautify).—It is quite a simple matter to make inferior table-linen look well without starch. Proceed as follows:—When the linen is washed, and dried, and ready to iron, dip it into boiling water, and partially wring out between two cloths. Then iron rapidly with as hot a flat-iron as possible without burning it. Treated in this way, it becomes beautifully glossy and stiff.

MADRAS MUSLIN (To clean).—Use Lux as directed for washing Lace.

PRINTS, COLOURED (To wash).—This is an excellent way of washing gowns, pinafores, aprons, etc. Take a packet of Lux and a pint of hot water, let it simmer, stirring well, then leave to get quite cold. Have a pan of water, hot enough for the hands to bear comfortably. Use sufficient of the Lux solution to make a good lather; add a wineglassful of vinegar, and wash the garments quickly, that they may remain wet no longer than needful. Put clean hot water and vinegar in a second pan, and rinse well. The final rinsing should be in cold water.

NOTE.—When coloured goods cannot be dried at once, they should be left in a large pan of cold water, with a tablespoonful of salt to the gallon.

RUST IN BOILERS (To prevent).—The complaint is frequently heard that wash-house boilers rust, and iron-mould the clothes. This can be very easily prevented by rubbing the boiler as soon as it is empty, and while still warm, with Sunlight Soap. This should be done thoroughly, until the boiler has a good coating of soap all over. But if Sunlight Soap is used for washing, the clothes will not need boiling, yet will be perfectly clean and pure.

SHAWLS, WHITE SHETLAND (To wash).—Shake well from dust, then make a solution with a tablespoonful of Lux and five quarts of boiling water. Whisk well; and, when tepid, work the shawls up and down in it, pressing well, not rubbing or wringing. If the shawls are very dirty, make a second lather and repeat. Finish off by rinsing in tepid water twice renewed, squeeze thoroughly, and dry by pulling out the corners, and pinning down to a board or table, covered with a cloth or piece of flannel. The border should be pinned here and there.

SOAP-JELLY (To make).—An excellent soap-jelly is made by dissolving the contents of a packet of Rinso in cold water to the consistency of thick cream, and adding three pints of boiling water, stirring the while. When cold, the soap liquid will form a jelly that is ready for use at any time. It will easily dissolve in hot or cold water, and will keep for any length of time in any climate.

SOAP SAVING.—Sun Bleach will be found an economical preparation, and one which effects considerable saving of soap in washing linen. It also softens the water and bleaches the clothes with perfect safety, helping to remove stains and grease.

STAINS, DAMP (To remove from linen).—Damp stains in any white linen article which has been put away for any length of time, can be easily removed with the aid of Omo. Place sufficient cold water in a pan or boiler. Add Omo in the proportion of one tablespoonful to each gallon of water. Stir until completely dissolved. Dip the articles in the water, then sprinkle a little Omo over the stained parts, replace in the water, and boil for half-an-hour to an hour. Let them remain for half-an-hour, or, better still, until the following morning, then rinse, and hang out to dry.

STAINS, FRUIT (To remove).—When white articles have been recently stained with fruit, place sufficient cold water in a pan or boiler. Add Omo in the proportion of one tablespoonful to each gallon of water. Stir until completely dissolved. Dip the articles into the cold water; then sprinkle a little Omo over the stained parts, replace them in the water, and boil for half-an-hour to an hour. Let the articles remain for a further half-hour, or, better still, overnight; then rinse and hang out to dry.

STAINS, INK (To remove).—To remove ink stains from white linen or cotton goods, pour hot water over the stains, and allow to soak for two or three hours. Pour off the water, and then soak the material in cold lemon-juice, overnight. Then boil immediately with Hudson's Omo, as directed for ordinary washing.

STAINS, IRON MOULD (To remove).—The best way to remove iron mould from white linen or cotton articles is to pour hot water over the stains, and allow to soak for two or three hours. Pour off the water, and just cover the stained material with hot lemon-juice, and allow to stand for a further two or three hours. The material is then boiled with Omo, as directed for ordinary washing.

STAINS, LAMP-BLACK (To remove).—Stains of lamp-black are often difficult to remove. The best action to take when table-linen or white woollen articles have been accidentally stained with lamp-black, is that of immediately applying a little kerosene to the stained surface. This should afterwards be washed off with warm water in which a little Sunlight Soap has been dissolved, and the stains will have disappeared.

STAINS, MILDEW (To remove).—Mildew stains may be removed from white linen or cotton articles by means of Omo. Place sufficient cold water in the pan or boiler. Add Omo in the proportion of one tablespoonful to each gallon of water. Stir until completely dissolved, place the articles into the water in layers, see that the water completely covers them, and boil for half-an-hour to an hour. Let them remain for half-an-hour, or, better still, until the following morning, then rinse, and hang out to dry.

STAINS, TEA, COFFEE, WINE, &c. (To remove).—Hudson's Omo will remove recent stains of tea, coffee, wine, etc., from linen in the ordinary course of washing, but where the stains are very old or persistent, the following directions, carefully observed, will give equally satisfactory results:—Pour hot water over the stains, and allow to soak for two or three hours. Then proceed in accordance with the directions given on the Omo packet for ordinary washing, and the stains will disappear. It is always best to treat stains as soon as possible, however, as, if neglected, their removal is more difficult.

STAINS (To remove).—Grass stains may always be removed by soaking in spirits of wine. Vaseline stains are very obstinate, and the best way to remove them is to soak either in spirits of wine or kerosene.

STAINS, VERDIGRIS (To remove from White Linen or Cotton goods).—Treat as for iron-mould stains, except that the material should be soaked in *cold* lemon-juice overnight, and then boiled immediately with Omo.

STARCH (Economy in).—After using cold water starch in doing up articles of lace or lawn at home, it should be remembered that, with economy, the same starch may be used over and over again. All that is required is to allow the starch to settle, and then pour off the water and place the sediment in a warm oven overnight, or stand it on the corner of the stove during the daytime. After the lapse of a few hours, the starch will have dried into a cake, when it can be broken up by crushing it in a mortar, or with a rolling-pin, when it is ready for use again.

STARCH (To improve).—With each quarter-pound of hot starch, mix a teaspoonful of melted Waxaw. This tends to prevent the iron sticking, and to give a gloss to the linen.

STOCKINGS (To wash).—Place some Lux in a vessel, allowing three or four tablespoonfuls for every gallon of water required, pour the water over it while boiling, and whisk into a lather. Put the stockings in and stir them about for a few minutes with a piece of smooth wood, then let them soak until the solution is cool enough to allow of the stockings being squeezed in the hands to expel the dirt. No rubbing is required. Rinse in two or three relays of tepid water, squeeze the water out without twisting, and hang in the open air. The quicker this is done, the better. Stockings should on no account be boiled, but the water used should be boiling, or nearly so. Cycling stockings treated in this way will last for years.

SWANSDOWN (To wash).—To wash swansdown, use a warm lather made with Lux, which has been dissolved in boiling water, and softly knead the down in it until quite clean. Then rinse in fresh cold water, to which a little blue has been added. Shake well, and hang in the air to dry, shaking constantly to make it fluffy.

TABLECLOTH, CHENILLE (To clean).—The water to be used should be poured, boiling, into a bath. Dissolve sufficient Lux in the boiling water to give a good lather with whisking. Add cold water to reduce the temperature, as the solution must not be more than warm when used. Put in the tablecloth, squeeze and stir about, and leave for two hours. Then repeat the stirring. Have ready another bath prepared as before, but use only one-fourth the quantity of Lux. Squeeze, and lift the tablecloth into the second bath, repeating the first process. After well rinsing in the second bath, hang the tablecloth on the line to run dry. Shake as it dries, squeezing the ends to relieve the weight, but be careful not to wring.

VELVETEENS OF ANY COLOUR (To wash).—The following is the method of washing velveteens of any colour, by the piece, or in made-up garments. Washed in this way, gowns, frocks, suits, etc., look excellent. Proceed by immersing the article in just *warm* water, place it on the washing-board and soap all over with Sunlight Soap, roll lightly, and leave it under water for a short time, then rub the garment all over to remove the dirt. Then simply take it from the water, giving a slight squeeze, and place it into clean cold water, plunging it well about. Pour off and add clean water until you have removed all soap, then lift the garment *dripping* from the water, peg it on to the line in a shady place, allowing it to fall as near as possible into its usual folds, as when wearing. Thoroughly dry and air, and the garment is ready for wear. Remember, there must not be any wringing of the garment.

WASHING (Without Boiling, Rubbing, or Scrubbing).—For washing white articles without the worry and labour of boiling, rubbing, or scrubbing, and also for washing Coloured Articles and Flannels, Rinso, used according to the directions on the packet, will be found a wonderful Dirt Dispeller. The white clothes only need soaking overnight, and are washed by morning, when nothing but rinsing is required.

KITCHEN AND PANTRY.

ALUMINIUM PANS.—Aluminium Pans should not be washed with soda or rough soap. They may be kept clean with a little Hudson's "Handy Ann" and water, and should be well rinsed, wiped dry, and polished with a dry cloth.

BAKING DISHES (Discoloured).—China baking dishes which have become discoloured can be made as new by cleansing them with Vim, according to the directions for cleaning crockery, given on the tin.

BRASS CANDLESTICKS (To polish).—A brilliant, lasting polish can be quickly obtained by the use of Saturn Metal Polish.

BRASS, GLASS, AND DELICATE SURFACES (To polish).—Vim, *thoroughly moistened*, and applied very lightly with a wet flannel or brush, is an excellent and easy polisher. Wipe the article dry, and polish with a clean cloth.

BRASS PANS (Care of).—Brass pans which have stood unused for some time should be cleansed and polished with Vim or Powder Monkey, applied with a damp cloth. Polish with a soft cloth; then rinse well with hot water and again polish with a soft cloth. Treated like this, brass pans will be safe for any kind of cookery.

BRASS TRAYS (To clean).—Monkey Brand is an excellent preparation for ridding a brass tray of the dirt and dust which are so apt to gather in the crevices. A damp cloth or brush should be used with which to apply the Monkey Brand. Polish finally with a dry, soft cloth.

BREAD-BOARD (To clean).—Vim will be found most useful as a means of cleaning wooden bread boards and handles of bread knives, when these become discoloured owing to temporary disuse. Use Vim according to directions for cleaning woodwork, given on the tin.

CHARCOAL IN THE LARDER.—A dish of charcoal should stand in the larder all the year round. This will help to keep meat fresh and sweet. Renew the charcoal from time to time.

CHINA (To wash).—For washing china of all descriptions, and glassware, Hudson's Dry Soap is specially recommended, but if the articles to be washed are very dirty, Vim or Powder Monkey will be found both quick and effective.

COPPER PANS AND VESSELS (To clean).—For cleaning copper pans and copper vessels of any description, Powder Monkey will be found most useful. The materials from which it is made are all pure and clean, and there is no objection, therefore, to its being used for pots and pans in which food is prepared. Powder Monkey makes all copper work throughout the house shine like gold, and keeps it bright at a cost of very little time and labour.

DECANTERS (To clean).—A little Hudson's Soap put into the decanter, together with some hot water, and well shaken, proves an admirable cleanser. Hudson's Soap is, indeed, a capital cleanser for glass-ware of any description.

DISH-CLOTHS (To keep sweet).—Keep your dish-cloths clean and sweet by washing carefully with Lifebuoy Soap and hanging in the fresh air to dry.

DRAIN-PIPE (When clogged).—A clogged drain-pipe may be cleared by pouring into it at night a hot and strong solution of " Handy Ann " and water in sufficient quantity to fill the trap. Allow no water to run until morning; then flush well with hot water.

DUST-BINS.—Dust-bins are a source of considerable danger. They are far too often the receptacle for that kind of refuse which should be burned. Scraps of food, vegetable débris—all are thrown into the dust-bin, and the dampness and decay which set in, long before they are visible, cause much sickness. Burn all you can. Insist on your dust-bin being regularly emptied.

EARTHENWARE (To mend).—Broken earthenware usually taxes the ingenuity of those who undertake the repairing of breakages in the pantry and kitchen, the drawing together of the wide edges of the broken article being usually beyond the scope of ordinary cement, such as is used for porcelain. The experiment is, however, worth trying of making an adhesive cement of litharge and Lever's Glycerine,

sufficient of the latter being used to make a thick cream. This should be spread on the broken earthenware, the pieces held together, and the mended article placed on one side for at least a week before it is used again.

EARTHENWARE (To render less brittle).—New earthenware dishes are rendered less brittle by the simple method of boiling them before they are used. To do this, put a large pan on the fire, fill it with cold water, and place the new ware at the bottom, taking care that the water completely covers it. Bring slowly to boiling point, then remove the pan from the fire, leaving the articles in the water to cool before taking them out. In the case of brown glazed ware, it is a good plan to add a handful of rye or wheat bran when the water boils. This will be found to give extra hardness to the glazing, so that neither acid nor salt will have any effect upon it.

ENAMELLED PANS (To clean).—Enamelled pans should not be washed with soda, which causes the enamel to discolour and crack. Use Powder Monkey, which is a quick and reliable cleanser.

FRYING PANS (Care of).—Monkey Brand is an excellent cleanser for frying pans. Take a soft sponge or cloth of any kind and dampen it in warm or cold water (warm is better), but do not make it very wet. Rub the cloth or sponge lightly on the soap until a good lather is produced, and then apply the sponge or cloth briskly over the surface of the frying pan, afterwards rinsing with clean water. Do not dip the cake of soap in water or apply it direct to the frying pan, but only through the medium of a damp cloth or sponge. If Monkey Brand is used, frying pans will always be perfectly clean and suitable for frying omelettes or fish with little danger of their catching at the bottom.

GAS BILLS (To reduce).—Reduce your gas bill by seeing that the flame from the stove or ring never flares round the kettle or pot. If the gas merely acts on the bottom, without appearing at all against the sides, one is using all the best strength of the heating power, and preventing waste.

GLASS, CUT (To clean).—Antique cut glass requires special handling if the brilliancy of the glass is to be retained. Only tepid water should be used with which to clean the articles, a lather being made on a stiff brush with Lux (dissolved with boiling water), and this should be worked into

the design so as to clear the interstices of dust, the glass being then immediately enveloped in sawdust and covered over for a few hours, the sawdust absorbing all the damp. Finally, a soft cloth should be used to give a polish.

GLASS DISHES (To toughen).—It is a good plan to place new glass dishes into cold, salted water, and then gradually allow the water to reach boiling point, and keep it at that temperature for a few minutes. Take the pan off the fire, and set it aside, with the dishes in it, until quite cold. The glass will then be well toughened.

GLASSES (To separate).—If two glasses have been placed one inside the other while damp, it often happens that the two stick together, breakage resulting when they are pulled apart. Instead, however, of using force, the lower one should be placed in a bowl of warm water, and the upper one filled with cold. If this is done, the hot water will expand the one glass, and the cold water cause the other to contract, the two then separating easily.

GLASS (To prevent breakages).—When washing glasses, it is a good plan to fold a towel several times and place it at the bottom of the basin used for washing up. This will prevent thin glasses from breaking.

GREASE (When spilled).—Should grease be spilled on the kitchen table, floor, or hearth, some cold water should be poured upon it at once. The water will harden the grease, which can be immediately removed with the blade of a sharp table-knife, passed underneath it. Not the slightest grease-mark should be left.

GREASY OVEN (To clean).—To clean a greasy oven, dust it thoroughly with powdered lime, and sprinkle this thickly at the bottom. Heat the oven well, let it cool, then brush out. The lime will absorb all the grease.

IVORY (To clean).—The best way to clean ivory is to boil it in a solution of alum and water for about two hours, and dry in the sun. It will look equal to new. Another way is to burn a piece of pumice stone in the oven; scrape into a fine powder, moisten with a little spirit of ammonia, and with it rub the ivory carefully. Half a lemon dipped in salt and rubbed on discoloured ivory knife-handles will restore them to their original whiteness. After doing this, wash the knives once in hot water.

JAPANESE WARE (To restore).—Japanese trays or coal-scuttles which have become dull and lustreless may be restored by polishing them with a mixture of whiting and vinegar, applied with a piece of rag. This should be wiped off with another piece of cloth, and the article rubbed with a dry chamois leather till a brilliant polish is secured.

KETTLES, BRASS.—Before using a brass kettle which has been put away for any length of time, it should be cleaned out with salt and vinegar.

KETTLES, COPPER (To clean).—Copper kettles should be rubbed with a damp cloth on which a little Vim has been sprinkled. Wipe dry, and polish with a clean, soft cloth.

KETTLES, IRON (To clean the outside).—Remove the lid and water from the kettle, place it on the side of the stove where it will get gradually hot. When thoroughly hot, remove from the stove and tap gently with a flat piece of wood all round the sides of the kettle; the black fur will then crack off. If treated in this way once a week, the kettle will keep clean and will boil more quickly.

KETTLES, IRON (To prevent blackness on).—A kettle that is placed directly upon the fire soon becomes coated with soot and lamp-black, which are difficult to remove. To prevent this, grease the bottom of the outside of the kettle. The black can then be easily rubbed off with newspaper.

KETTLES, IRON (To remove fur from).—To remove fur from the inside of a kettle, fill it with water, add a teaspoonful of sal ammoniac, and let it boil a few minutes. Then empty it, and stand it over the fire to get red-hot; the fur will then peel off. Now fill the kettle with water, to which a handful of soda has been added, boil for half-an-hour, and thoroughly rinse it. The formation of fur may be largely avoided by keeping an oyster-shell in the kettle.

KITCHEN BAROMETER (To make).—All that is needed for this is a glass household jam-jar and an old glass oil-flask. Fill the former three parts full of water, and, after cleaning the flask, put it neck downwards into the jar. The finer the weather is going to be, the higher the water will rise in the flask. This is a very useful and reliable barometer for the kitchen.

KITCHEN (Care of).—Lifebuoy Soap is a boon in the kitchen. Where it is freely used on floor, tables, and all utensils, except those used in cooking food, the place is clean, sweet, and free from insects. The water in which the washing has been done should not be thrown away, but allowed to run gradually down the drain-pipe and the sewer, to purify and disinfect them thoroughly. The kitchen and the pantry sinks are traps for dangerous accumulations. Their frequent disinfection is highly desirable. The use of Lifebuoy Soap makes this automatic and gives no trouble. One of the great virtues of Lifebuoy Soap is the usefulness of the waste-water. Remember, this costs nothing; it needs only to be thought of, and is thoroughly effective.

KITCHEN TABLES (To whiten).—If kitchen tables are scrubbed with Vim according to the directions on the tin, they will be kept white and spotless.

KITCHEN WALLS, PAINTED (To clean).—To clean painted kitchen walls, first pour some clear kerosene into a basin. Then take a soft cloth and dip it in the kerosene, and wash a part of the wall with it. Then wring another cloth out of hot suds made with Sunlight Soap, and go over the spot that had previously been cleaned with kerosene, and lastly wipe with a dry, clean cloth, and you will be surprised with the result. It is the easiest and most satisfactory way of washing painted kitchen and bath-room walls.

KNIFE-BLADES (To tighten).—When the blades of knives become loosened and threaten to part company with the handles, they may be joined together with plaster of Paris. To make this doubly secure, it is a good plan to mix a little strong glue with the plaster and water, the paste being then pushed into the cavity between the blade and the handle, and the two portions pressed close together until the edges meet. The plaster will soon harden, and will last for a considerable time.

Another satisfactory cement for knife-blades is a mixture of equal parts of powdered resin and quick-lime. Half fill the hole in the handle with this mixture, make the spike

hot by holding it in boiling water, and run it into the handle as far as it will go. As the spike cools, the cement hardens.

KNIFE-BOARD HINT.—When a knife-board is employed in lieu of any of the patent machines, it should always be warmed before the fire before using. This has the effect of considerably hastening the operation of polishing the knives.

LEATHER, CHAMOIS (To clean).—If chamois leather is washed with soap and water, and rinsed and dried, it will become stiff, hard, and almost useless. But if it is well washed in a bowl of water, in which has been dissolved a tablespoonful of Lux, and *not* rinsed out afterwards, it will dry as soft, and be as serviceable, as when new. The Lux must be dissolved with boiling water.

MATCH SCRATCHES (To remove).—Match scratches may be removed from dark paint-work by rubbing the spots with a flannel dipped in petroleum. Afterwards wash the surface with warm water and Sunlight Soap, and wipe quickly with a clean cloth wrung out of clear water.

METAL (To polish).—Monkey Brand cleanses and polishes metals at the same time. Take either a sponge or cloth of any kind, and damp it in warm or cold water (warm is better), but do not make it very wet. Rub the cloth or sponge lightly on the soap, until a good lather is produced, and then apply the sponge or cloth briskly over the surface of the article to be cleaned. Do not dip the cake of soap in water, or apply it direct to any surface, but only through the medium of a damp cloth or sponge.

MILK-JUGS (To wash).—When washing up glasses and jugs that have been used for milk or custard, rinse carefully in cold water and then plunge into tepid water. This makes it easier to keep the glasses polished, and prevents any sour curd forming at the bottom of the jugs. Hudson's Soap will assist greatly in this work.

PASTRY BOARDS (To clean).—Wet the boards well. First sprinkle over a little Vim, and scrub the way of the grain. Rinse thoroughly, and dry in the open air. This keeps them sweet and prevents mustiness.

PIE-DISHES, DISCOLOURED (To clean).—When pie-dishes have become discoloured on the edges or sides from milk, gravy, or fruit syrup boiling over, immediately the dish is removed from the dinner-table, the edges should be well scraped and the dish put into a large bowl of hot water, so as to entirely cover the dish. Let it soak for several hours, then cleanse with Powder Monkey, when the discolouration will disappear.

PLATED WARE AND SILVER (Care of).—Plated ware and silver should be washed with a sponge in two lots of warm soapsuds, made from Lux, every day after using, and wiped perfectly dry with a clean, soft cloth. Silver that is exposed to the air tarnishes much more quickly than if kept in a drawer or cupboard, especially in damp or foggy weather. Plate baskets should be carefully covered with a clean chamois leather. Silver which is not in use may be kept from tarnishing by being painted with collodion in alcohol. This forms a thin, invisible coating on the silver, which completely protects it from the air. When the article is again taken into use, the coating should be washed off with hot water.

REFRIGERATOR (To clean).—To clean a refrigerator, shake a little Vim on to a wet flannel and with it rub the refrigerator briskly. Then wash or wipe, and dry with a clean cloth. A thorough overhauling should be given twice a week, the inside of the refrigerator being dried thoroughly before the food is replaced.

SAUCEPANS, BLACKENED (To restore).—When the flame from an oil stove has blackened the outside of a tin saucepan or kettle, the soot should be removed with paper, at once, while the tin is hot, and the saucepan cleaned later with Powder Monkey or Monkey Brand.

SAUCEPANS, BURNT (Remedy for).—Pans and saucepans that have been burnt should never be filled with soda and water, as this, although it removes the burnt portions, also makes the saucepan liable to burn again. Instead of soda and water, fill it with salt and water, and leave till next day, when it should be placed on a fire till the water slowly boils. The burnt particles will come off without any difficulty, and there will be no after-effects. Then wash with Powder Monkey or Monkey Brand.

SAUCEPANS (To clean).—There is nothing better than Powder Monkey or Monkey Brand, used according to the directions on packet.

SCOURING.—For scouring and cleansing generally, Vim will be found an excellent preparation, and give best results.

SILVER, BLACKENED (To clean).—Any neglected or blackened silver should be treated in the following manner:—Dissolve one pound of hyposulphate of soda in just as much water as it will absorb, and moisten the discoloured parts with this, leaving it on for a few minutes; next wash the silver in warm water in which Lux has been dissolved, rinse in clean hot water and dry, finally cleaning with plate polish.

SILVER CLEANING (Preparation for).—Lux is a useful preparation for cleaning silver. The silver should be well washed with hot water in which the Lux is dissolved. Dry well, and rub with a soft flannel or soft cloth dipped in silver paste and methylated spirits. When the paste is dry, rub off with a soft cloth, using a brush to get the paste from the crevices and from between the prongs of forks. Finally polish with a chamois leather.

SILVER, OXIDIZED (To clean).—For cleaning engraved, chased, or oxidized silver articles, first wash them with lather made by dissolving Lux in boiling water, and rinse in scalding water, then tap on the table to knock off moisture, and stand to dry while the heat is retained in them.

SILVER-PLATED GOODS (To wash).—Wash thoroughly, after use, with a hot lather made with Lux (dissolved in boiling water), taking out each article quickly, and wiping it at once with a soft towel, then polishing all over with a leather.

SILVER SPOONS AND FORKS (To wash).—Dissolve Lux in boiling water—one tablespoonful of Lux in every basin of water used.

SILVER TEA-POT, MUSTY (To sweeten).—Sometimes, through oversight or carelessness, tea-leaves are left in the tea-pot, and become mouldy, leaving behind a disagreeable odour, which has been thought by many to be ineradicable. Treat the silver tea-pot with a strong solution of Sunlight Soap, and, after allowing it to stand a night, all traces of the objectionable smell will disappear.

SILVER (To remove ink-stains from).—Ink-stains may be removed from the silver tops of ink-stands by making a paste with a small quantity of chloride of lime and water, and rubbing it upon the stains. Wash off with Lux dissolved in boiling water, and polish in the usual way.

SINKS (Care of).—Prevent solid matter from entering the sink water-pipe, and never remove the grating which protects it except when the sink is being flushed with hot water and Lifebuoy Soap. Whenever possible, the water in which cabbages are boiled is better thrown out of doors. The daily flushing of sinks with Lifebuoy Soap is of vital importance. As a kitchen disinfectant, Lifebuoy Soap is invaluable, and a tablet should always be kept handy on the sink. Soapsuds made with Lifebuoy Soap may, after use for other purposes, be poured down the drain-pipe, and will keep it pure and wholesome. If a waste-pipe has been neglected, it may be perfectly cleansed and disinfected by flushing freely with a strong solution of Lifebuoy Soap and boiling water.

SINKS (To clean).—To cleanse earthenware kitchen sinks, Vim will be found invaluable, and will remove all objectionable matter, leaving the sink perfectly clean and wholesome.

SOOT (To prevent).—Make a brine of common salt; pour it over coal and cinders. The accumulation of soot in the chimney will be prevented, and the under parts of the stove in which the brine is used will be kept clean.

STAINS, EGG (To remove).—Egg stains on linen, or on any other cloth, should be soaked in cold water, for hot water would set the stains and make them most difficult to remove. The same rule applies to egg stains on dishes, etc. If the dishes were placed at once in hot water, the egg stains would be found to harden, but they readily come off in cold water.

STAINS, EGG (To remove from spoons).—To remove from egg-spoons stains caused by soft-boiled eggs, rub them with ordinary salt, and the stains will disappear.

STAINS, MEDICINE (To remove).—Medicine stains on silver should be rubbed with a little methylated spirit, and the article then washed in warm water with Sunlight Soap.

STAINS ON DUTCH TILES (To remove).—When Dutch tiles are used as stands for the tea or coffee-pot, or for flower-pots, a stained circle is often made which it is difficult to remove. In such cases, Vim should be used according to the directions given on the tin.

STAINS, TEA (To remove).—Nothing is better as a means of removing stale stains of tea from tea-cups and saucers than Hudson's Soap. The soap should be moistened and rubbed over the china with a cloth, the cups and saucers being then well rinsed.

STEEL KNIVES (To clean).—Use Monkey Brand, according to the directions on the packet. This will not only remove rust or other stains, but will also give the knives a brilliant polish.

STEEL (To clean).—Steel may be cleaned with Vim. Shake a little of the powder on to a wet flannel or brush, or on to the article to be cleaned, and rub briskly with the wet brush or flannel. Then wash or wipe off and dry with a clean cloth.

STOVES (To clean).—In blacking a stove, all grease spots should be carefully washed off with Sunlight soapsuds, and the rough and rusty parts of the stove, where something has been carelessly thrown on, and has burnt on the stove, must be carefully rubbed with coarse sand-paper. The blacklead should be mixed with vinegar until it becomes of the consistency of cream, and care should be taken never to blacklead the stove when hot, as the blacklead in such a case burns on, and will not produce the mirror-like surface it ought to do.

TEA-POTS (Care of).—Great care is needed to keep a tea-pot clean and sweet. Immediately after use, remove the old tea-leaves, scald the tea-pot out with fresh hot water, and wipe till quite dry. Never allow the inside to become stained with the old leaves. A new tea-pot thus treated from the beginning will give little trouble and never become stained.

TEA-POTS, MOULDY (Treatment of).—Earthenware tea-pots which have been put away for some time, and have become mouldy inside, should be boiled in a strong solution of borax before they are again used. The mouldiness will then disappear.

TIN-WARE POLISH.—A good polish for tin-ware is Powder Monkey, used according to directions given on the packet.

TIN-WARE (To clean).—Acids should never be employed to clean tin-ware, because they attack the metal and remove it from the iron, on which it forms a thin coat. For cleaning articles of this nature, as well as those made wholly of tin, nothing is better than Powder Monkey or Monkey Brand.

TIN-WARE (To prevent rusting).—A simple method of preventing new tin-ware from becoming rusty is to rub it over with lard, and then bake it in the oven before taking it into use. After this process, it can be used continually, and will not rust.

TRAYS, PAPIER-MÂCHÉ (To clean).—To clean soiled papier-mâché trays, wash with a flannel and warm Sunlight soapsuds—never in hot water—dry thoroughly, and sprinkle well with flour. In a little while shake off the flour, and polish the surface with a silk handkerchief.

TRAYS (To make like new).—The following method makes trays look almost new:—Mix some bronze powder with best copal varnish. Before using the varnish, the trays must be well washed with Sunlight Soap and water, and then dried. The varnish can be dried quickly by putting the trays in the oven, but care must be taken that it is not too hot. Apply thinly to produce a good effect.

TRAYS (To remove marks from).—A paste of salad oil and salt will remove from polished trays the white marks caused by hot dishes being carried thereon. The mixture should be spread lightly over the marks, and allowed to remain an hour. It may then be removed with a soft cloth, and the discolouration will vanish with it.

TUMBLERS (When chipped).—Tumblers and wine-glasses which have become chipped round the edges can be rendered fit for use again if the glass is ground until a level rim is obtained. To do this, a piece of coarse emery-paper is nailed to a board; holding the glass in both hands, slowly work it backwards and forwards over the rough surface until the rim is even.

URNS, JAPANNED (To clean).—Take some boiling water and make a lather with Lux. When lukewarm, wash the urn thoroughly, afterwards rinsing with cold water. Wipe perfectly dry with a clean cloth. Then sprinkle a little flour on a soft rag, and go over the outside of the urn, polishing off with a silk handkerchief.

FURNITURE.

CANDLE GREASE (To remove).—To remove candle grease from polished furniture, floors, etc., wring a sponge out of very hot water, and hold it over the grease spot for a few seconds. The grease will be softened, and can easily be rubbed off with the sponge. Finish with a chamois leather wrung out of warm water.

CANE AND WICKER CHAIRS (To clean).—A good way of cleaning both cane and wicker chairs is as follows:—Squeeze the juice of two lemons into half a bucket of hot water; wash the chairs with this mixture, rinse with clean cold water to which has been added a handful of "Handy Ann" (which stiffens the wicker), and dry in the sun.

CANE-SEATED CHAIRS (To restore).—To restore the elasticity of the seats of cane chairs, turn the chairs over, and with hot water, Sunlight Soap, and a sponge, wash the cane-work so that it may be thoroughly soaked. Dry in the air, and it will be as good as new.

DRY ROT (To prevent).—Oil of cedar is successful in preventing the spread of dry rot. When a piece of old furniture, which is riddled with tiny worm holes, is placed in a room with new furniture, the precaution should be taken to add a little of the oil of cedar to the polish with which it is brightened, so as to prevent the risk of contamination.

DUST (To remove).—To get the dust out of buttons in furniture, the following simple method acts like magic. Take a pair of bellows and, once or twice a week, blow round the buttons. Out fly the dust and dirt without damaging the leather.

FURNITURE, BAMBOO (To preserve).—To preserve bamboo furniture, keep it away from the fire and rub it once a week with equal parts of turpentine and linseed oil applied with a flannel. Always polish well with a soft cloth.

FURNITURE (Dents in).—If a piece of furniture has been knocked, the dent may be removed by first applying some warm water to it, then placing several thicknesses of brown paper which have been soaked in warm water on it, and, lastly, holding a warm iron to the paper until the moisture is absorbed. If necessary, this process should be repeated, and the dent will disappear.

FURNITURE, ENAMELLED (To clean).—Wash with a damp cloth and Sunlight Soap with warm water, afterwards wiping with a dry cloth and polishing with a soft duster.

FURNITURE (Mould on).—During very damp weather, a fine bluish mould will sometimes appear on the furniture of a room which is seldom used. To remove this, the wood should be rubbed with a cloth wrung out of lukewarm water, to which ammonia has been added in the proportion of a tablespoonful of ammonia to a gallon of water. Rub with a dry cloth, and light a fire in the room occasionally.

FURNITURE POLISH FOR OLD OAK.—An old-fashioned furniture polish, for old oak or mahogany, is as follows:—Pour a quart of stale beer into an old saucepan, and add a piece of beeswax the size of a walnut, and a teaspoonful of coarse sugar. Boil until the wax is melted, and, when cold, rub it on the wood, let it dry, and then polish. The wood should be washed first with beer alone, and dried thoroughly to remove grease, etc.

FURNITURE (To remove spots from).—White spots can be removed from varnished furniture by holding a hot plate over them, when they will soon disappear. Finger-marks on a polished wood surface should be rubbed with a clean flannel dipped in paraffin oil, and the spot then wiped with a cloth wrung out of hot water, so as to remove the odour of the oil. Stains on polished furniture may be removed by cutting the surface of a piece of cork quite smooth, and evenly rubbing the spots with this until in their place a fresh polish appears. A spot caused by placing a heated dish on a table will disappear if salt and salad oil are poured on to it, allowed to remain for an hour or so, and then rubbed off with a soft cloth.

FURNITURE, UPHOLSTERED (Care of).—To clean upholstered sofas and chairs, the tapestry or brocade covering should first be well brushed, then wiped lightly with a flannel dipped in clear alcohol. The flannel must be wrung out in Lux soapsuds as soon as it becomes soiled, or the dirt will stain the upholstery. If the flannel is wrung out thoroughly, the alcohol will not hurt the lightest brocades, but will freshen and bring out the colouring. For cleaning carved woodwork, a small mop should be made with cotton-wool wrapped round the end of a piece of stick and dipped in alcohol.

FURNITURE, WALNUT (To renovate).—First thoroughly wash with Sunlight Soap and warm water, and wipe well, then use a good furniture polish, and finally rub well with clean, dry dusters. The cause of a walnut suite having white specks is either dampness or bad polish. To remove these, dissolve a little "Handy Ann" in warm water, well wash the parts affected, and dry with a soft rag. Then polish with a dry rag, taking care to rub up and down.

FURNITURE (When bruised).—Bruises and scratches on good furniture should be treated immediately after the accident has occurred, and not allowed to be exposed to the air. An excellent method of restoring the surface of the wood when damage is slight, consists in rubbing it with nut-oil. This is best effected by removing the shell of a fresh walnut, splitting the kernel in half, and rubbing the broken portion on the bruise until the mark is removed.

JAPANESE TABLES (To clean).—First, dip a rag in vinegar, and rub it over the table. This will produce a cloudy appearance. When dry, rub it over again with a paraffin cloth, which will impart a nice polish to the surface.

LEATHER, MOROCCO (Dressing for).—An excellent dressing for morocco leather-covered chairs and couches is made of forty drops of turpentine added to half a pint of milk. Any dust that has accumulated in creases or round buttons must first be removed.

LEATHER REVIVER.—Chairs and sofas upholstered with leather last much longer if the leather is regularly revived with the following mixture:—Take one part of best vinegar, and two parts of linseed oil. Shake well together, apply a little on a soft rag, and afterwards polish with a soft duster, or an old chamois leather.

LEATHER SEATS, BROWN (To renovate).—Procure a pennyworth of bismarck brown, and dissolve in two fluid ounces of naphtha. With this touch up the faded portions of the leather with a small camel-hair brush, and, if not dark enough, give another touch up until the shade is matched. When dry, go over the stained portions with good clear paste or gum; then rub the whole seat with a leather reviver or furniture cream, polishing well with a soft cloth.

LEATHER (To patch).—Ordinary glue is as useless in patching leather articles as it is in the case of mackintosh material. In order to fasten a patch on a leather bag or leather-covered chair, a mixture of half a pound of gutta-percha, two ounces of rubber, an ounce of pitch, half an ounce of shellac, and an ounce of linseed oil, should be used. The ingredients should first be melted slowly over the fire, and the mixture applied while hot.

MAHOGANY (To remove stains from).—Rub them with a cork dipped into a little oxalic acid and water. When the stains have disappeared, wash the wood thoroughly with pure water, then dry, and polish as usual.

MIRRORS (To polish).—It is surprising what an efficient polish may be found in ordinary candle smoke in the case of mirrors or hand-glasses. A candle should be held close enough to the glass to blacken it without letting the grease touch; care should, however, be taken that the flame of the candle does not remain long enough to crack the glass. The smoke may then be diffused by means of a piece of newspaper, a fresh piece of the latter being used afterwards to give a polish.

OIL PAINTINGS (To clean).—To clean oil paintings, peel a potato and halve it. Rub carefully over the painting with the flat side. Cut a new surface each time the moisture is exhausted. Sponge afterwards with clean, tepid water.

OLEOGRAPHS (To clean).—Lay the oleograph face downwards on the table, with a piece of clean muslin beneath. With a soft hat-brush, go regularly over the back of the oleograph, taking the strokes one way only, so as to avoid creases. Shake all dust from the muslin, lay the print on the muslin, back downwards, and having cleaned the brush by rubbing it on a piece of clean muslin, repeat the brushing on the face. The surface can then be further cleaned with stale bread-crumbs worked carefully under a flat piece of wood.

OLEOGRAPHS (To remove mildew from).—The picture must be taken out of the frame, and tacked on to a flat board, and placed near the fire. After it has dried for a time, wipe it very gently with a soft silk rag; but be careful that the varnish is not affected. If any of the varnish has been disturbed, it must be touched up with a camel-hair brush with white paper varnish.

PIANO KEYS, CELLULOID AND IVORY (To polish).—Take a pennyworth each of white wax, of beeswax, and of Sunlight Soap, and one pint of turpentine. Dissolve altogether over a warm stove. Be very careful that the mixture does not take fire. When cool, it is ready for use. Well rub the keys with the preparation, applying with a cloth, and polish with a pad of chamois.

PIANO PEDALS (To prevent squeaking).—Piano pedals occasionally develop a tiresome tendency to squeak, which is often allowed to continue from sheer ignorance of the mechanism on the part of the owners of the piano. It is, however, a simple matter to remove the bottom panel of the piano, and rub a little powdered blacklead on the part where friction exists, when the squeaking will at once cease.

PIANOS (Where to place).—A place too close to a fire should not be selected for a fine piano, or the woodwork will soon draw. Neither near an open window, where dampness from a passing shower may so rust the wires and mould the inside as to make expensive repairs necessary, nor should it ever be placed with the back flat against the wall. Precaution should be taken to keep a piano closed when not in use, otherwise the keys will grow yellow, and collect dust between them, and this makes the action heavy.

PIANOS (Why they go out of tune).—A piano is injured by being kept in a very dry, over-heated room. This is the reason why pianos go so quickly out of tune in a room heated either by gas-fire or by steam heat.

PICTURE FRAMES, GILT (To clean).—To clean gilt picture frames that have become dirty, mix together two ounces of common salt and the same amount of powdered alum and of purified nitre. Add half a pint of water; mix well, and apply lightly with a soft sponge. This will improve them. To restore gold frames which, though not dirty, have become a bad colour, try sponging them with a little warm water in which an ounce of ammonia has been dissolved. In either case the frames must not be rubbed, else you will take off what gilt remains. Gilt frames may also be brightened in the following manner:—Put enough flowers of sulphur into a pint of

water to give a golden tint. In this, boil four or five small bruised onions; strain, and, when cold, paint the frames with the liquid, using a soft camel-hair brush. This is also a good means of keeping flies off picture frames.

PICTURE FRAMES, OAK (To darken).—A good method of darkening new oak frames is that of sponging them in boiling water, in which a little carbonate of soda has been dissolved, two ounces of soda being allowed to every pint of water. After the wood has dried thoroughly, a second application should be given, if the colour is not sufficiently deep; while, if too pronounced a shade is the result, the frame should be quickly washed over with a sponge rinsed out in water.

PICTURES (To hang).—In hanging heavy pictures from a nail in the wall, great difficulty is often experienced in getting the nail securely fastened in the plaster. Here is a simple remedy which many a professional picture-hanger follows:—The hole made by the nail should be enlarged, and the edges of the plaster thoroughly moistened with water. The space should be filled in with plaster of Paris, and the nail inserted into the soft plaster. When the plaster hardens, the nail will be perfectly firm.

TISSUE PAPER (Uses of).—The tissue paper in which parcels are wrapped should never be thrown away, but smoothed out and laid away in a drawer for future use. A small pad of tissue paper, sprinkled with methylated spirits, will give a brilliant polish to mirrors, picture glasses, and crystals. The pad, used without spirit, is excellent for burnishing steel, rubbing grease spots off furniture, polishing silver, etc.

VARNISH (To remove scratches from).—Scratches on varnish will entirely disappear if a coarse cloth, well saturated with linseed oil, be laid over them. This simple remedy is invaluable to those who have the care of carriages and very highly-polished furniture, etc., on the surface of which scratches are very unsightly.

VERMIN (To destroy).—To destroy vermin in wall-paper and furniture, dissolve one ounce of powdered camphor in half a pint of rectified spirits, then add half a pint of spirits of turpentine. Shake all well together and bottle for use. To use the above mixture, first brush away all dust from the walls and furniture, then apply the mixture to the infested parts. It will not leave a stain, and is certain death to vermin.

FLOORS.

CARPET CLEANSER.—The following is a very good and easily-made carpet cleanser:—One ounce of Lux, half a pint of boiling water, and two tablespoonfuls of ammonia. Put the Lux into a basin, pour the boiling water over it, and, when cool, add the ammonia. When quite cold, this should form a jelly, which is ready for use. The soiled parts of the carpet should be wiped over with a damp cloth, wrung out of clean hot water, and then brushed with a nail-brush dipped in the carpet soap. Wipe over with a damp cloth again, and dry with another clean cloth. If the carpet has very delicate colours, do not put quite so much ammonia into the soap.

CARPET (How to sweep).—Many a handsome carpet is made prematurely old by injudicious sweeping. In sweeping thick pile carpets, always brush the way of the pile, and the carpet will be kept clean for years. If the broom is used in a different way, all the dust enters the carpet, with the result that it is soon spoiled. Used tea-leaves scattered on druggets and short pile carpets attract the dust, and thus save a good deal of harm being done to the furniture.

CARPETS, INK-STAINED (To clean).—Ink may be removed from the most delicate-looking carpet if the stain is washed immediately with milk, warm or cold. Plenty of milk must be used, and rubbed into the carpet vigorously with a piece of clean flannel. Wash the stain thus until it has entirely disappeared. The milk should be poured on to the stain, not on to the flannel.

CARPET SOAP.—Dissolve one packet of Lux in a little boiling water, say $\frac{1}{4}$-pint, or less, and allow to cool. To the jelly so formed add four ounces of fuller's earth. Mix well, and keep in a jar for use on grease stains on carpets. Spirits of turpentine may be used if desired, in this recipe, so as to work the mass into a plastic paste, which may be formed into balls. This carpet soap may be rubbed on grease stains on the finest wall-papers, without injuring the paper. It is also good for removing stains from the hands, and it exercises a healing power upon the skin, especially when the latter is inflamed and broken through long immersion in hot water.

CARPETS, PERSIAN (To clean).—Sunlight Soap and water cannot possibly injure any carpet, Persian or otherwise. How they should be cleaned, however, depends on their condition. Stains should be treated separately, either with Vinolia fuller's earth, or with a mixture made with a gill of ox-gall to half a pailful of water (and so on in proportion), which will be found very effective. Sweep the carpet well, or beat it first, then apply the mixture with a soft brush. Wash off the lather produced by the soap, etc., with clean cold water, changing it often, and finally rub the carpet with a soft cloth.

CARPETS (To clean).—Scrub with Sunlight Soap; it brings up the colour well, and leaves no smell. Scrub with a loofah; then have ready some clean dusters, well rub and dry as much as possible. Another way is to make Sunlight Soap into a good lather, and rub on with a flannel. After this, a pail of water to which a little ammonia has been added must be used to rinse off the soap. This water should be changed frequently.

CARPETS (To remove blacklead marks from).—Blacklead marks on a carpet may be removed by coating it thickly overnight with a paste of fuller's earth and water containing a little ammonia. Brush off in the morning when quite dry, and repeat the process if necessary.

CARPETS (To remove grease stains).—Scrape the grease off as much as possible with a spoon, as a knife is very apt to injure the carpet. Place a double piece of brown paper over the spot, and rest a hot iron on it for a few seconds. Remove the paper and repeat the process, until the stain disappears.

Another method of removing obstinate grease spots and stains from carpets is to dissolve a packet of Lux in a pint of boiling water over a fire. Add two ounces of lump ammonia, one ounce of Lever's Glycerine, and one ounce of ether. When all are melted and quite cold, add two quarts of water. This solution should then be mixed with water in the proportion of a teacupful to one pail of water. Mix thoroughly, and proceed to remove the spots from the carpet with a sponge damped with the mixture. Finally rub as dry as possible with a dry cloth. Woollen goods will look quite bright if sponged with this mixture.

CARPETS (To remove soot from).—If soot is accidentally spilled on a carpet, it should be treated at once, before the marks become ingrained. Table salt should be spread over the spots and allowed to remain on for half-an-hour. It should then be brushed off lightly into a dust-pan, and the carpet afterwards brushed carefully with a clean, dry broom, following the grain of the carpet.

CARPETS (When laying).—When laying carpets or rugs, the floor should first be covered with thick paper. This should never be done until the floor is quite dry, as the damp will cause rot and mildew, and will injure both the boards and their coverings.

CRACKS IN BOARDS (To fill).—Far cheaper than putty, and equally efficacious, is a mixture made by soaking newspapers thoroughly in a paste made of one pound of flour, three quarts of water and a teaspoonful of alum. The mixture, which should be of the consistency of putty, should be forced into the cracks with a knife, where it will harden like papier-mâché, and may be stained or painted to match the floor or skirting-boards which it is used to repair.

FLOOR BOARDS (To remove grease from).—To remove grease from floor boards, use Monkey Brand or Powder Monkey, according to the directions on packet.

FLOOR BOARDS (To whiten).—Use Vim, according to the directions given on the tin, and floor boards will be beautifully white and clean.

FLOOR POLISH (Home-made).—To make a fine polish for hardwood floors, melt a Bull's Eye Aërated Wax Candle, and to the liquid add the same amount of turpentine. Apply this mixture with a soft cloth and rub dry.

FLOORS, HARDWOOD (Care of).—A hardwood floor that has been varnished or oiled may show portions which have become quite dark and discoloured, while others will be worn white. The only satisfactory treatment is to scrape with a steel scraper down to the bare wood, and then refinish properly with wax. Washing is worse than useless, as it only makes the old linseed oil gummy, without removing the dirt, and bleaching with oxalic acid gives an unpleasant mottled effect.

FLOOR STAINS.—A dark oak stain can be made by mixing a little Venetian red and burnt umber (dry) in porter. It can be used either with a sponge or a brush. For mahogany stain, put two ounces of dragon's blood in a quart of turpentine, and dissolve in a warm place; shake it up and apply with a brush. For rosewood stain, boil one pound of logwood chips in one gallon of water; add one ounce of salts of tartar, and rub on the floor while hot. For a black stain, get half a pint of Japan black, and add one pint of turpentine; mix it together, and use with a brush. Another black stain is made by dropping a little sulphuric acid into a small quantity of water. Then brush over the floor.

FLOORS (To re-stain).—When floors need re-staining, a mixture of stain and varnish should be applied after a thorough washing. If crevices exist between the boards—a condition common to all old houses—it is well worth while to stop them up with stained putty, and stain over the top, thus effectually preventing the dirt from entering the room through the boards from the space below.

FLOORS (To wax).—There is quite an art in preparing wax for polishing floors, but here are directions for its successful preparation at quite a small cost. Obtain half a pound of beeswax, and cut it into small pieces, melting it by placing the pan containing the wax shavings in another vessel containing hot water. Next place a pint and a half of the best turpentine in a large pan, keeping it away from the fire or lighted gas, and slowly pour this on to the melted wax, stirring rapidly all the time until the ingredients are thoroughly blended. Before applying this to the floor, see that the latter is perfectly clean and dry, then dip a flannel rubber into the mixture and rub the wood lengthwise, treating one board at a time till the whole floor is covered. Cover a block of wood of a suitable size with thick layers of flannel, and rub the floor briskly to obtain a fine, smooth polish.

HEARTHRUG, LIGHT (To clean).—If the hearthrug is a light carpet one, soap a flannel—wrung out of tepid water to which a few drops of liquid ammonia have been added—with Sunlight Soap, and with it rub the hearthrug. The rug will then be quite fresh. Rinse off with clean, tepid water.

LINOLEUM (To wash).—Dissolve a packet of Lux in a pint of boiling water over a fire, add two ounces of lump ammonia, one ounce of Lever's Glycerine, and one ounce of ether. When all are melted and quite cold, add two quarts of water; this should be mixed with water in the proportion of a teacupful to one pailful of water. Thoroughly wash the linoleum with the solution, dry well, and then go over it again with a cloth wrung out of milk. The linoleum will look like new after this process.

LINOLEUM (To clean).—A quick way to wash linoleum is to shake a little Vim or Powder Monkey on to a wet flannel or brush, or on to the linoleum itself, and rub briskly, but not hard, with a wet brush or flannel. Then wash or wipe off, and dry with a clean cloth.

LINOLEUM (To polish).—A good polish for linoleum is made by dissolving two ounces of white wax or beeswax in one pint of turpentine, and well mixing it with about half its bulk of good copal oil varnish. Apply with a woollen cloth, and glaze with a weighted brush or cloth friction. This polish is of a specially permanent character. It forms, by degrees, a solid, impenetrable, enamel-like film, which acts as a preservative against the severest foot-wear.

LINOLEUM (To preserve).—When linoleum begins to wear, paint the surface with good floor-paint, allowing a longer time for it to dry than in the case of wooden boards.

MATTING, COCOANUT (To clean).—To clean cocoanut matting, scrub it thoroughly all over with hot water and Sunlight Soap; then loosely fold it and put it in a large washing-tub. Pour a quantity of cold water over it, and then hang out to dry.

MATTING (To clean).—Matting can be very efficiently cleaned by means of Indian meal. A little should be sprinkled on the matting, which should then be carefully swept. The process, if repeated frequently, will keep the matting in excellent condition. In cases where grease of any kind has been spilled, the following method should be adopted. The grease-spot should be covered thickly with French chalk, which should be moistened with benzine, and left on until the benzine has thoroughly evaporated. When brushed off, the spots will be found to have been entirely eliminated. For

stains on matting, take a teaspoonful of oxalic acid and dissolve it in warm water, and rub the stain-marks well with the liquid. Afterwards rub them over with salted water, when they will disappear.

MOTHS (To eradicate from carpet).—If moths have got into a carpet, it must be taken up, thoroughly shaken, and pressed with a flat-iron as hot as the carpet will bear without scorching. Then liberally sprinkle the floor where it is to lie with spirits of turpentine, pouring this into any cracks there may be between the boards.

OILCLOTH (To fasten to stone).—When laying oilcloth on stone floors, if the edges of the oilcloth are well smeared with brewers' yeast, it will keep in its place, and will not turn up at the edges. It can easily be taken up, when desired.

OILCLOTH (To preserve).—To preserve oilcloth, put two ounces of glue in a pint of water, and stand it in a warm place until melted. If liquid when cold, it is ready for use; if not liquid, a little more warm water should be added. First wash the oilcloth with Vim, on a damp cloth, being careful to rub lightly; then dip a linen rag into the mixture, and with it rub the oilcloth. Let it dry. After this application, only dusting will be required for some time.

PARQUETRY FLOORS (To clean).—To clean parquetry or stained wood floors, pin over the broom a clean coarse cloth which has been damped and then wrung dry. Sweep carefully, and change the position of the cloth as it becomes soiled.

RUGS (To prevent curling).—To prevent rugs from curling at the edge or corners, sew a triangle of ordinary cap-wire into the corner or along the edge that has a tendency to curl. In the latter case, sew the base of the triangle flat to the edge with the apex pointing inwards.

TEA-LEAVES (Substitute for).—Persons who are accustomed to use tea-leaves for sweeping their carpets, and find they leave stains, should substitute freshly-cut grass. It answers the same purpose, and gives a brighter and fresher appearance to the carpet.

TILED FLOORS (To brighten).—To clean and brighten tiled floors, shake a little Vim on to a wet flannel and rub the tiles briskly. Wash or wipe off and dry with a clean cloth. This method may also be adopted to remove stains from tiled hearths.

COOKERY.

ALMOND POUNDING.—When pounding almonds, always add a few drops of rice-water or plain cold water to prevent the otherwise inevitable appearance of oil. Even when bought already pounded, almonds should be kept in a tin, as any paper left in contact will absorb the oil.

APPLES FOR THE WINTER.—To preserve apples during the winter months, spread on shelves, leaving a little distance between each apple, as nothing causes them to rot sooner than if one touches another. Rub them lightly over with Lever's Glycerine when storing away. Before using, carefully wipe each apple with a damp cloth to remove the glycerine.

BAKING HINT.—To keep a cake from rising and cracking in the middle, dip the knuckles in milk and level well down before putting in the oven.

BISCUITS (To freshen).—Biscuits which have lost their crispness by exposure to the air, may be considerably freshened, and rendered once more hard and crisp by placing them on a baking sheet in a cool oven for a few moments. Although soft when they are taken out of the oven, they will harden at once on cooling.

BROWN BREAD (To improve).—Knead in with the whole wheat meal a well beaten-up egg; it prevents that crumbliness so often incidental to brown bread, and improves the flavour.

BURNT TASTE (To remove).—If anything which is being cooked in a saucepan becomes a little burnt during the process, a good method to adopt is to stand the pan immediately in a basin of cold water, which will have the effect of entirely removing the burnt taste.

CAKE (To prevent sticking).—To keep a cake from sticking to the baking pan, grease the pan well, dredge it with flour, and shake out the loose flour before pouring in the cake mixture.

CAKE (To remove paper from).—To remove from a cake after it is baked, and while still warm, the paper which has lined a cake-pan is a work that requires skill. Turn the cake

from the tin on to a sieve, and, when partly cooled, turn the cake bottom upwards and brush the paper with chilled water until it is thoroughly damp, when it can be easily peeled off.

CARBONATE OF SODA (Usefulness of).—A pinch of baking soda stirred into milk that is to be boiled will keep it from curdling. A little piece, the size of a pea, added to tomatoes for tomato cream soup will prevent the milk curdling, and is a safeguard with all cream soups. A small piece cooked with green vegetables will keep them a fresh colour.

CREAM (Substitute for).—An excellent substitute for cream in tea is a new-laid egg. Beat up the egg in a basin, and then pour over it boiling tea, taking care that the egg does not curdle. It is difficult, from the taste of the beverage, to distinguish the composition from tea and cream.

DOUGH (To make rise).—If bread dough fails to rise, soften the dough with warm milk, in which a tablespoonful of butter has been melted. Then work in a cupful of flour with which have been mixed two teaspoonfuls of baking powder. This, baked immediately, makes nice, light bread.

EGGS (Hard-boiled, to soften).—Eggs which have, by mistake, been boiled too long, can be rendered quite soft by placing them in cold water for a few seconds. This also improves the flavour.

EGGS (To beat).—When beating eggs for sweet dishes, add a little coarse sugar. They will be beaten in half the usual time.

EGGS (To detect bad).—A bad egg has a black spot attached to the shell clearly visible when held to the light. Stale eggs are considerably lighter than those newly laid.

EGGS (To preserve).—By greasing eggs with vaseline while they are still warm, or, at any rate, within a few hours of being laid, the contents should remain good for six weeks or two months, and may do so for a much longer period. Eggs may also be kept as good as new for months, if the shells are smeared all over the same day as they are laid (while still warm is best) with Lever's Glycerine. They should be kept with the small end uppermost.

EGGS (To prevent cracking).—To prevent eggs from cracking while boiling, a good plan is to pierce the broad end with a needle before putting them into the water. In order to prevent the outsides of the yolks of hard-boiled eggs turning black, put the eggs into a bowl of cold water directly they are taken out of the saucepan. Before boiling an egg which has been accidentally cracked, it is a good plan to place a little salt in the saucepan of water. Another good method of avoiding the loss of any of the white is that of enclosing the egg in a small paper bag, previously greased with oil or butter, and the neck tied round with string or thread.

EGGS (To tell age of).—A fresh egg will sink when placed in water, and rest on its side. If three weeks old, it will incline slightly, with the small end down; if three months old, it will stand on the small end, and, if older, it will float with the large end out of water more or less, according to the age.

FILTER (An ideal).—A sheet of clean white blotting-paper makes an ideal filter for all cold juices and liquids. A whole sheet of the paper should be folded in half, and again folded over to quarter its size; then " pinch " over and over like a fan, into strip-like corrugations. Unfolded and laid in a colander or funnel, these little ridges keep back every impurity, allowing only the clearest, cleanest juice to trickle slowly through into the vessel underneath.

FISH FRYING HINTS.—In frying fish, it is generally an improvement to add a little lemon-juice to the fat in which it is cooked. Sprinkle a little salt in the pan when the fat is boiling. This will help to prevent the fish from breaking when it is turned over.

FISH (To scale).—Fish may be scaled much easier by first dipping them into boiling water for a minute.

FOWLS (To make tender).—Try steaming fowls, instead of boiling; cooked in that way, the meat is always tender, and the full nutriment and flavour of the fowl are preserved.

FOWLS (To singe).—To singe a fowl cleanly, put a small quantity of methylated spirit into a saucer, set it alight, and hold the fowl over it. This is both a cleanlier and less dangerous method than the old-fashioned one of employing burning paper. Very little spirit must, however, be used at a time, as it flares up readily.

FRUIT DISH (To prevent cracking).—When pouring hot fruit into a glass dish, place the dish on a wet cloth. This prevents any chance of its cracking.

FRUIT (Economical cooking).—In cooking fruit, use only a small quantity of sugar, adding the required amount after the fruit is stewed. This is an economical method, as less sugar is needed in this way.

FRUIT FALLING IN CAKES.—In making currant or sultana cakes, the fruit sometimes falls to the bottom of the cake, causing it to become heavy and unpalatable. This may be attributed to the fact that the cake mixture was too liquid, a frequent fault when milk is used without the addition of one or more eggs. Baking at too low a temperature will also tend to the same result, the butter dissolving before the heat required to burst the starch granules of the flour has been reached.

FRUIT PIES (To prevent overflowing).—If the juice runs out of a fruit pie, tap the dish gently against the side of the oven. A good plan is to insert a tiny white paper funnel in the middle of the crust to prevent the juices from overflowing.

FRYING HINTS.—In frying bacon or sausages, it is sometimes difficult to prevent the hot grease from splashing and covering the stove with spots of grease. If a little brown paper is dipped in vinegar and water and rubbed over the ironwork, every trace of grease can be removed with very little trouble.

GAME (To preserve).—A peeled onion placed inside dressed game will keep it sweet and wholesome for some days. Burn the onion when removed. Newly-ground coffee sprinkled over game will keep it fresh in the most unfavourable weather.

GRAVY BROWNER.—Sugar ketchup for browning soups or gravies can be made as follows:—Pound in a mortar 6 ozs. of coarse brown sugar. Set a small saucepan on the stove with 2 ozs. of butter in it. Add the sugar, and mix well with a wooden spoon. After boiling, stand this by the side of the fire till it has become a rich, dark colour. Season the browner with pepper, a little sauce, and allspice to taste. Place the colouring in bottles, cork, and it is ready for use.

HOME-MADE WINES (To clear).—To clear home-made wines, put about half a pint of the wine into a jug. Add half an ounce of isinglass. Stand in a saucepan of water by the fire till dissolved. Beat well with a silver fork, then, when nearly cold, put into the wine and cork down. Leave for a time, and the wine will be quite clear. If, however, the wine is very cloudy, add more isinglass.

HONEY (To purify).—To purify honey, about 25 lbs. of honey at a time is diluted with half its weight of water, and boiled over a gentle fire, with a paste obtained by twirling three sheets of white blotting-paper with water until the paper is reduced to very fine fibres. The two are mixed together, and boiled over a gentle fire. The mixture is then allowed to cool, and afterwards put into a woollen straining bag, previously moistened. The honey runs off quite clear.

HOT DISHES (To cool).—When a hot dish has to be cooled quickly, stand it in cold water to which has been added a liberal amount of salt.

JAMS, JELLIES, ETC. (To cover).—For covering jars or glasses of jam, jelly, pickles, etc., nothing is better than Waxaw. The method is simple and effective. Follow the directions given on the packet.

LABELS (To make adhere).—Labels put on to bottles, jars, or tins with ordinary paste, soon fall off. A capital adhesive paste for this purpose is made of two drachms of starch, one ounce of white sugar, two drachms of gum arabic, and enough water to bring to the required thickness. Dissolve the gum in the water, add the sugar, and then the starch, and boil until the starch is cooked.

LEMONS, CUT (To preserve).—If half a lemon is wanted for flavouring, place the unused portion on a plate and cover with a glass. The exclusion of the air will preserve the lemon for a much longer period than if it were exposed.

LEMONS (To store).—Choose some fresh lemons without blemishes of any kind. Wash and dry them well. Dry some fine sand in the oven, and let it cool. When cold, spread a layer at the bottom of a box, stand the lemons in it—stalk downwards; cover with sand to the depth of two or three inches over the top, and store in a dry place.

LETTUCE (To make crisp).—Put a pinch of powdered borax into the water in which you wash lettuces. Let them soak for half an hour in this, then shake them free from the water, wipe each leaf separately, after well rinsing, and you will be delighted at the crispness of the lettuce. Salted water softens lettuce, but borax both cleans and freshens it.

MEAT (Remedy for toughness).—If meat is tough, or you have any doubt as to its tenderness, put a tablespoonful of vinegar over it when putting it on to cook; you will find it very tender when done.

MEAT, ROAST (To prevent over-browning).—When meat is being roasted, and there is danger of it becoming too brown, place a basin of water in the oven. The steam will prevent scorching, and the meat will cook better.

MILK (Effect of salt on).—Salt will curdle new milk. In making porridge, gravies, etc., salt should not be added until the dish is prepared, otherwise it will curdle and be spoilt.

MUCILAGE FOR GLASS.—For pasting labels on glass, make a mucilage of whites of eggs beaten up and allowed to run down again; labels moistened with this, and pressed by means of a cloth firmly on jar or jelly-glass, will not come off from damp and not until immersed for a long time in water.

MUSSELS (To test).—When boiling mussels, put a small onion with them. If there is any poison in the mussels, the onion will go black. If good, the onion will retain its natural colour, and will not taint the mussels in any way.

ORANGE PEEL (Uses of).—Orange peel should be kept till dry, and then grated into powder, and put aside for the flavouring of puddings and cakes. Dried orange peel, when put in the linen-press, imparts a delicate odour to the linen.

ORANGES (Peeling hint).—When peeling oranges, always start at the top, where the stalk has been, and this will cause the white, pithy substance to come clear away with the skin. The cook who uses the fruit to decorate jellies, etc., will find this hint very useful, as it saves much time in needless picking and scraping.

OVENS, DEFECTIVE (To remedy).—To remedy an oven which will bake properly, but which will not brown, whitewash it well inside while cold, and it will be found to brown splendidly.

OVENS (To prevent overheating).—A too hot oven can be quickly cooled by placing in it a basin of cold water. The steam from the water will not injure anything that may be cooking, except puff pastry.

PARSLEY (To keep the colour of).—To keep the colour of parsley, dip it for a minute or two in boiling water, then shake off the water and chop fine for soup or sauce.

PICKLE JARS (To seal).—An excellent preparation for hermetically sealing pickle jars is Waxaw, used according to directions on the packet.

PICKLE JARS (To sweeten).—To sweeten pickle jars and bottles, fill them with garden mould, and leave them for three or four days. Then wash them with Vim and water, and rinse well with cold water.

PICKLES (When bottling).—When bottling pickles in rubber-necked jars, it frequently occurs that last season's jars and bottles are found to be no longer airtight, owing to the hardness of the rubber rings round the necks. To render the rings soft, a good plan is that of detaching them from the bottles, and soaking them in a mixture of ammonia and water, in the proportion of two parts of the latter to one of ammonia, but if Waxaw is used, according to the directions on the packet, on any kind of pickle jars and bottles, they are kept perfectly airtight.

PICKLING HINT.—A pinch of alum added to the vinegar when making red cabbage and onion pickle ensures that delicious crispness essential to a perfect pickle.

PICKLING (Vessels for).—The nature of the vessel used in pickling is of the utmost importance. Vinegar boiled in an untinned copper or brass pan dissolves a portion of the copper and immediately becomes impregnated with a poisonous substance. Nothing should be used for boiling vinegar except stone or well-scoured cast-iron vessels, the former for preference.

RAISINS (To stone).—In stoning raisins, awkwardness is often occasioned by the stickiness of the fruit, which makes the process a slow one. This may be entirely obviated by first moistening the finger-tips with a very little butter.

RICE (To keep white).—When boiling rice, try adding a little lemon-juice to the water. This gives the rice a nice white appearance, and keeps the grains well separated.

SCORCHED BAKING TINS (To prevent).—If salt is put under baking tins, in the oven, it will prevent their contents being scorched.

SUGAR (To clarify).—To clarify sugar, break the sugar into a copper pan, and to each pound allow two gills of water. Place on the fire, and allow to boil gradually. Carefully remove the scum as it rises, throw in an additional half-pint of water to each pound, and allow it to boil again. Skim very thoroughly and strain through muslin. This clarified sugar is used for fruit salads.

VEGETABLE HINT.—To restore frost-bitten vegetables, soak them in cold water for an hour before boiling, and put a piece of saltpetre in the saucepan in which they are boiled.

VEGETABLES—SUGAR TO RETAIN COLOUR.—Many people object to green vegetables which have been cooked with soda to preserve their colour. A piece of sugar may be substituted for the soda. It has the same effect and leaves no disagreeable flavour.

VEGETABLES (To wash).—A little borax added to the water in which green vegetables are washed will remove any insects.

YEAST (Home-made).—Boil one pound of good flour, a quarter of a pound of brown sugar, and a little salt, in two gallons of water for an hour. When milk-warm, bottle it and cork it close, and it will be fit for use in twenty-four hours. One pound will make eighteen pounds of bread.

YEAST (To test).—Always test yeast before using it, by mixing with it half a teaspoonful of sugar, a teaspoonful of flour, and half a pint of lukewarm water. If the yeast is good, it will begin to froth sharply in less than ten minutes. Another test for yeast is to place a cork in the sponge, and if it blows out the yeast is bad.

FOOD AND BEVERAGES.

BANANAS (How to choose).—In choosing bananas, an expert always discards those which are long and thin in favour of the short, thick-set examples, which have far more flavour. It is also a mistake to select those which are of a deep golden colour, on the presumption that they are the ripest, as the colour of the skin is not always an unfailing test of the maturity of the fruit.

BREAD (Test for).—If you wish to find out if baker's bread is adulterated with whiting or chalk, mix it with lemon-juice or good vinegar, and if it ferments you may be certain it has been adulterated, and is, therefore, not pure.

BREAD (To cut).—In cutting new bread, it is a good thing to remember that the slices will be more even, and there will be less waste of the crumbs, if a hot knife is used. To do this, a saucepan of boiling water should be kept at hand, and the knife dipped in and dried on a cloth before cutting each piece of bread.

BREAD (To keep fresh).—Household bread will keep fresh for considerably longer if it is placed in a tin with a well-fitting lid as soon as it is received from the baker, or—when made at home—directly it is cool.

BUTTER (To cut).—Difficulty is often experienced in winter in cutting fresh butter without its crumbling. To obviate this, a piece of the waxed paper in which the butter is wrapped should be folded round the knife, when the hardest butter can be cut in even squares or slices without spoiling the shape of the pat or roll.

BUTTER (To keep cool).—Here is a very simple arrangement for keeping butter cool in even the warmest weather. Get a common flower-pot and a piece of new house flannel, and soak both in cold water all night. Put the butter on a dinner-plate, put the flower-pot over it, and then cover with the flannel, which must be wrung out of the water. Wet the flannel afresh every day.

BUTTER (To sweeten).—To sweeten rancid butter, first melt it and then skim it. Put into it a piece of toast (being careful to see that it is not at all burned). In a few minutes the butter will lose all its rancid taste, which the toast will have absorbed. If butter is wrapped in a clean cloth which has been wrung out of heavily-salted water, with a lump of charcoal put in the outer folds of the cloth, it will keep sweet for a long time.

BUTTER (To test).—Take a clean piece of white paper, smear a little butter on it, roll up the paper, and set it on fire. If the butter is pure, the smell will be rather pleasant, but the odour will be distinctly tallowy if the butter is made up, wholly or in part, of animal fats.

CHEESE (To keep fresh).—Cheese wrapped in a cloth previously steeped in vinegar and water will keep fresh for a considerably longer time than if kept in the store-room in the ordinary way. A dry cloth should be kept wrapped round the saturated one, and the latter re-steeped in vinegar and water from time to time.

COFFEE AS A PRESERVATIVE.—A sprinkling of freshly-ground coffee will keep poultry fresh for several days. All game packed in hampers or boxes should be treated in this way.

COFFEE (To improve the flavour of).—A few grains of salt sprinkled on coffee before adding the water brings out and improves the flavour.

COFFEE (To test).—To test ground coffee, place a teaspoonful of the coffee in a wineglass containing water. If a part floats and a part sinks, it is undoubtedly adulterated.

GREEN VEGETABLES (To keep fresh).—Green vegetables can be kept fresh for days by wetting them and then rolling them up in paper, screwing the ends to keep out the air.

GROCERIES (Care of).—Groceries should never be kept in paper bags, as they rapidly deteriorate. Good-sized tins should always be preserved, and should be carefully washed and polished, and used as receptacles for sugar, currants, sultanas, coffee, etc. Small labels should be pasted on each tin, so that they are invariably used for the same article.

HAMS (To test).—Stick a sharp knife into the ham, under the bone. If it comes out clean, and the smell is pleasant, it is all right, but if there is a disagreeable smell and the knife is smeared, reject the ham.

MEAT PRESERVATIVE.—A good preservative for meat during hot weather is made by boiling together a quart of best vinegar, two ounces of loaf sugar, and two ounces of salt. When cold, bottle, and use a little to brush over the meat when delivered by the butcher, before putting it in the larder. Meat may also be kept several days in the height of summer, sweet and good, by lightly covering it with bran, and hanging it in a passage where there is a current of air.

MILK (Test for).—A good method of testing milk is that of dipping the end of a knitting-needle into it. Should the milk have been adulterated with water, the needle will emerge with only a faint trace of milk, whilst if the latter has not been tampered with, some will adhere to the steel.

MILK (To keep sweet).—In hot weather, which easily "turns" milk, the latter may be kept sweet by scalding it (new milk) very gently without letting it boil, and setting it aside in the earthen dish or pan in which it is scalded. Another hint for the same purpose is to place the jug containing milk in very cold water or on ice. Cream already skimmed may be kept in hot weather for twenty-four hours if scalded. By adding to it as much powdered sugar as will make it rather sweet, it will last good for two days, if kept in a cool place. When milk has to be boiled before the cream is taken, the cream always rises to the top, forming a scum. This may be prevented by placing the vessel containing the milk in cold water until it has cooled.

MILK (When at its best).—The morning's milk yields much more cream than that of the evening. That milked at noon furnishes the least. It is, therefore, an advantage, in making butter, to employ the morning's milk and keep the other for domestic use.

ONIONS (To keep).—Let the onions be dry; heat a poker red-hot, and with it singe the roots, to prevent all premature growth. Hang them in a dry, cold room, and they will keep for any length of time.

SUGAR (How it is adulterated).—The usual adulterants of sugar are sawdust and fine sand, but they may be easily detected by putting some sugar in a tumbler of cold water. Stir well until the sugar is dissolved, when the sawdust will rise to the top of the tumbler, while the sand will sink to the bottom. Another way to test the quality of sugar is to burn a little in an iron ladle. Pure sugar will burn right away. Impure sugar will leave some ash behind it.

TEA (To test).—The following simple test applied to tea in everyday use will prove its wholesomeness. Turn out the infused leaves, and if they are found a good brown colour, with fair substance, the tea will be wholesome; but if the leaves are black and of a rotten texture, with an oily appearance, the tea will not be fit to drink. The purer the tea, the more distinctively the brown colour of the leaf strikes the attention; also note that the leaves have the serrated or saw-like edges, without which no tea is genuine. Another test for tea is to drop a pinch into the fire, and, the more blue the flame, the better the tea.

TINNED FRUIT (To test).—When using tinned fruit, always plunge into the contents of the tin a bright steel knife. Let it remain a few moments, and if there be the smallest degree of copper present, it will be found on the blade. A poisonous dye found in some tinned fruits is very harmful to the human system.

TINNED MEAT TEST.—A sure and simple method of testing tinned meat is to press the bottom of the tin with the thumb. If it makes a noise like a machine oil-can, when it is pressed, the tin is not airtight, and the contents, therefore, are unfit for use.

HEALTH HINTS AND REMEDIES.

ASTHMA HINT.—Soak some white blotting-paper in a strong solution of saltpetre, dry it; take a piece about the size of your hand, and, on going to bed, light it, laying it upon a plate in the bedroom. By this means, persons, however badly afflicted with that painful complaint, Asthma, will be greatly assisted in obtaining sleep.

BURNS (Remedy for).—Common whiting, mixed with cold water to the consistency of thick cream, will at once relieve the pain, and soon cure a burn or scald, if the skin is not broken. There is no better remedy, and it should be kept ready mixed in a jar in every kitchen. If applied immediately, it will always prevent blisters forming. As the heat of the wounded part dries up the moisture in the whiting, it should be wetted again, or a wet cloth kept on.

BUTTER AS OINTMENT.—It escapes the notice of many housewives that they possess in their larder the very finest ointment yet discovered for all sorts of bruises, cuts, chaps, or roughness of the skin. This is butter. The soothing qualities of the cream with which butter is made are such that even the worst bruise will vanish quickly after its application.

CHAPPED HANDS.—Lever's Glycerine will be found a most healing and beneficial application for chapped hands. It should be applied at night, and a pair of old suède or chamois leather gloves worn till morning.

CHILBLAINS (French remedy for).—First take half an ounce of white wax, of ox marrow one ounce, and of hog's lard one ounce. Melt the mixture slowly over the fire, and stir without stopping until the wax is melted. Strain through a fine cloth, and at bed-time place the soft paste on the chilblains and wrap fine handkerchiefs round.

CORNS (Remedies for).—Beeswax is an old-fashioned cure for corns. The method of preparing and applying it is as follows: Melt in a saucer a small portion of beeswax, dip into it the end of a match, and drop the wax, as hot as can

be borne, on to the corn. Leave it there, the corn completely covered, for three days. Then remove it with a penknife, and it should bring away with it the greater part of the corn. Repeat this treatment until cured. Another old-fashioned remedy for corns is an ivy leaf steeped in vinegar and bound over the offending corn. It should be covered with oiled silk and tied securely round the toe, and in a short time the corn will disappear. A glycerine poultice is another remedy. To make this, steep a piece of lint in Lever's Glycerine and then lay it on the corn, with a piece of oiled silk over, keeping it in place with a narrow bandage. Put this on every night, and by day wear a shoe that does not press on the corn at all. By persevering with this, the corn will soon disappear.

CUTS (Quick cure for).—To cure a cut, smother it thickly with pepper, and bind it up tightly, and, if possible, keep it dry for three or four days, when it will have healed up wonderfully. This is a most certain and quick cure. Another remedy is as follows:—Take a quarter of a pint of thick cream and boil it for a quarter of an hour, keeping it constantly stirred. Let the cream stand till cold, then beat it thoroughly until of a pasty consistency, and apply to the cut. It may be kept bottled if desired.

DISINFECTANT (A simple).—Lifebuoy Soap has proved itself a reliable friend in the sick-room, and should always be used for the crockery, toilets, floors, etc. It does much to prevent the spread of infection, and produces and maintains a healthy atmosphere in the sick-room itself. It should always be remembered that Lifebuoy Soap cleans and disinfects at the same time.

DRAIN (Flushing of).—Drains should be flushed to remove solid matter which has accumulated in them. This is particularly necessary during hot weather. A pailful of used Lifebuoy soap-suds thrown suddenly down the drain is much better than a tap left to run all day. Should a bad smell arise, and the flushing fail to remove it, the drain should be properly examined.

DUST BINS (To keep sanitary).—To render galvanized iron dust bins perfectly sanitary, burn a couple of newspapers, or one or two handfuls of straw, in them every time

they are emptied. Let the fire flame well, and it will remove every trace of old grease or damp from the iron, and render the dustbins as healthy as new ones and quite free from any unpleasant smell, in a few minutes, with practically no trouble or expense.

FISH-BONE IN THE THROAT (To remove).—In the event of anyone getting a fish-bone fast in the throat, it can be removed by using a strong solution of carbonate of soda and water as a gargle. This will give almost immediate relief. The solution may be swallowed without fear of injurious results.

HEALTHY HOMES, GOLDEN RULES FOR.—Here are a few simple hints for safeguarding the health of the home. Lavatories and sinks should be daily disinfected by pouring into them a solution of Lifebuoy Soap in water. Immerse all dirty cloths, floor-cloths, etc., in a solution of Lifebuoy Soap and water, washing them out in the same solution. Occasionally wash the house right throughout—floors, windows, and woodwork—with Lifebuoy Soap and the more used parts of the house oftener. Yards and outhouses must be kept scrupulously clean and disinfected by a free use of Lifebuoy Soap and water. Scrub thoroughly every bedroom and household utensil with Lifebuoy Soap and hot water. Place a tablet of the soap in the bathroom and also in each bedroom for toilet purposes. The free systematic daily use of Lifebuoy Soap in every household will be found to conduce in every way to health, long life, and happiness.

HOUSE (To choose).—In house-choosing, it is well to remember that the rooms facing the north can never be comfortable or truly healthy. It is also a good plan to open all the cupboard doors, and smell near the floor; this will prove to you whether the drains are perfect or not. A smell would be noticeable in the cupboards, which might not penetrate into the room.

LEMONS (Uses of).—Lemons have many uses besides those of flavouring. If you have a throbbing headache, slice a lemon and rub the pieces over the brow, and the pain will soon go away. If your hair is falling out, rub slices of lemon thoroughly over the scalp and into the roots, washing the head afterwards with warm, soft water. A cup of tea is improved with slices of lemon in place of milk. Pure lemon

juice will rout giddiness and sea-sickness. If you have a wart or vexatious corn, rub lemon juice into it, and in time it will disappear. Bid defiance to mosquitoes with a touch of lemon juice. To improve the appearance of the hands, mix lemon juice and Lever's Glycerine, rub your hands with this at night, and wear large, old gloves till morning.

MUSTARD PLASTER (To make).—To make a mustard plaster, mix the mustard with the white of an egg until it forms a smooth paste; then spread it between muslin, and at once apply to the affected part.

NURSING THE SICK.—When nursing cases of sickness at home, plenty of fresh air, nourishing food, and daily baths with Lifebuoy Soap will help the nurse to carry out her arduous duties and keep her in good health and spirits. The invalid will also be greatly refreshed by having hands and face sponged with water and Lifebuoy Soap two or three times each day, if the doctor allows this.

SICK-ROOM (Hints for).—The sick-room should be kept clean and well ventilated, the patient free from draught. Keep the window slightly open, to allow circulation of the air; or, should the doctor deem this not advisable, screen the bed carefully, cover the sufferer warmly, and open the window two or three minutes at a time, taking care to keep the door closed, to prevent draught. The linen should be washed with Lifebuoy Soap, to ensure its being thoroughly antiseptic; in infectious troubles it should be well soaked in a solution of water and Lifebuoy Soap before leaving the sick-room, to guard against the spread of disease. In serious cases, the physician often insists upon the removal of carpets, hangings, upholstery, pictures, ornaments, and whatever may harbour dust, and the frequent sponging of the floor with a solution of Lifebuoy Soap and water.

SMELLING SALTS (Refreshing).—Those who are apt to be overcome by oppressive conditions of the atmosphere, and sufferers from headaches, will find the Vinolia Inexhaustible Lavender Smelling Salts of exceptional strength and highly refreshing and invigorating. Bottles, 6d. and 9d.

SPLINTERS (To remove from hands, etc.)—Here are two methods of removing splinters. The first is to make a plaster of Lifebuoy Soap and sugar by crushing the soap on

to a piece of rag, sprinkling a little sugar over it, and mashing it together with the end of a teaspoon. This, applied to the wound at night, will draw the splinter to the surface, however deeply it may have entered the flesh, so that it can be pulled out with the fingers. The second way of removing a splinter is to nearly fill a wide-mouthed bottle with hot water, and then hold the injured part over this and press it down lightly. The suction will act as a poultice and draw the flesh down, when the splinter will come out quite easily.

SPRAINS (Remedy for).—An excellent remedy for sprains is to boil wormwood in vinegar and apply it hot to the injured part, with a sufficient wrapping of cloths to keep the sprain moist, renewing the lotion occasionally.

VOICE STRENGTHENER (Simple).—For singers, a simple preparation for clearing and strengthening the voice is made by beating up the white of an egg with the juice of a lemon, and sweetening with sugar. Bottle this and keep for use. A teaspoonful of the mixture, taken immediately before singing, gives immense relief to the throat.

WASP STINGS (Remedies for).—As soon as stung, get a blue-bag and rub it well into the wound at once. The application of Royal Vinolia Cream will immediately relieve the pain, or an onion cut in half and rubbed in, will serve the same purpose.

WASP, SWALLOWED (Remedy for).—A simple remedy for a person who may, unfortunately, have swallowed a wasp, is to put a teaspoonful of common salt into the mouth immediately and hold it there. The salt will instantly kill the wasp and heal the sting. Occasional sips of salt and water should be taken afterwards for an hour or two.

WATER (To purify).—A simple method of purifying water is to tie a small piece of undyed flannel on to the tap, leaving it rather loose, and it will be found to absorb all impurities. Renew the flannel from time to time.

CLOTHING & PERSONAL ARTICLES.

BOOT BRUSH (Substitute for).—A very good substitute for a boot brush for removing caked mud may be made by glueing a strip of Brussels carpet to a conveniently sized piece of wood. This will quickly remove the mud from the boots without injuring the leather, while it will save the brushes from the extra hard usage to which they are subjected on a succession of wet days.

BOOTS AND SHOES (Care of).—In drying boots and shoes, care should be taken not to put them too near a fire, as this shrinks and impoverishes the leather, and leads to consequent cracking. An excellent paste for improving cracked and shabby black leather shoes may be made from the yolk of an egg, one ounce of castor oil, one drachm of turpentine, two drachms of gum arabic, and three ounces of black ink. A useful piece of information for the traveller is that, failing paste or cream, brown shoes can be cleaned successfully by rubbing them with the inside of a banana skin, a final polish being given with a soft cloth.

BOOTS, KID (Treatment of).—To prevent kid boots from becoming hard and stiff after they have been wetted, they must first be rubbed with a soft cloth immediately after removing them from the feet, and, while still damp, kerosene oil should be well rubbed in with a piece of flannel, repeating this treatment again when the first application is nearly dry. Then place the boots in a warm place, where the drying operation can be finished gradually. Before wearing them, rub over once more with a little kerosene and then apply a good kid polish in the usual manner.

BOOTS (To polish quickly).—To polish boots quickly, do not blacken, but rub with a piece of orange. Let the juice dry in, then polish with a soft brush.

BOOTS (To prevent creaking).—To prevent new boots from creaking, and to render them more damp-proof, dip a piece of flannel in boiled linseed oil and rub it over the soles and round the edges of the boots, which should then be turned soles upward to dry.

BOOTS (To toughen).—To toughen boots for wet weather, stand them when new in linseed oil to which some castor oil has been added. Let them remain in the oil for three days, in order that they may become thoroughly saturated.

BOOTS (To waterproof).—To render boots and shoes waterproof, melt half an ounce of burgundy pitch in half a pint of drying oil, mingled with half an ounce of turpentine. Warm the boots slightly, and then paint them over with this composition; after drying them, give them another coat. Then permit them to dry perfectly in a warm place, but not too near a fire, or the heat may injure the leather.

BOX CALF (Polish for).—If an extra bright polish is required in the case of ordinary box calf leggings or boot leather, the blacking should be mixed with cold tea instead of water. This should be applied to the leather in the usual way, and when dry should be polished with a stiff, hard brush.

BROWN BOOTS AND SHOES (To remove stains from).—Stains on brown boots and shoes are often difficult to remove. Hodgson & Simpson's Winner Saddle Soap will often be found efficacious, but much depends on the nature of the stains. Thoroughly rinse a sponge, making sure there is no grit or dirt in it. Squeeze most of the water out, and rub on the surface of the Saddle Soap till the sponge is sufficiently soapy. Remove from the leather with the sponge any spots or particularly dirty places, adding water as may be necessary. Rinse the sponge again, and then repeat the washing as before. When cleaned, let the boots stand for a few minutes before drying with a soft cloth. Polish, when dry, with a very soft brush or chamois leather.

BROWN BOOTS (To blacken).—When brown boots or shoes have become discoloured, it is sometimes desirable to blacken them They may be blackened by the following method:—Thoroughly clean them, then wash in "Handy Ann" and water. When you have done this, apply a quantity of good black ink to the boots with a brush. When the first application is dry, give a second coating, then allow to stand for a day to dry thoroughly. They may then be blacked in the usual way, and, after a few days, will take on a brilliant black polish.

BROWN BOOTS (To darken).—In order to stain very light brown boots to a good nut brown, cut a potato in two, and rub the leather well over, using one half for each boot. Then mix together a spoonful of common soda, twopennyworth of annatto, and the same quantity of bismarck brown, in half a pint of hot water. Apply with a small brush. If the first application is not dark enough, give a second coat. When quite dry, polish with a strip of woollen material, see-saw fashion, and the finish will be good.

CASHMERE (To clean).—First, well brush and remove all dust; then wash very quickly in warm water, in which a lather has been made with Lux, the Lux having first been dissolved in boiling water, one tablespoonful to every gallon. A good quantity of ammonia should also be added to the water. Rub as little as possible, and rinse in blued water containing a handful of salt.

CHIFFON (How to cut). The difficulty so often experienced in cutting flimsy materials, such as chiffon, soft silk, etc., is easily overcome by pinning the material on to paper and cutting both together. If this is done, the chiffon can be cut perfectly straight without any catching or rucking up.

CHIFFON (To clean).—Lux is capital for this purpose, and may be used as follows:—Put some Lux in a vessel, allowing one tablespoonful for every quart of water required. Pour the water over it while boiling and whisk into a lather. When the water has cooled sufficiently for the hands to be placed in it with comfort, put in the chiffon and let it soak for a short time. Then squeeze the material with the hands to expel the dirt. No rubbing is required. Rinse in two or three relays of tepid water, squeeze the water out without twisting, and pin out on a flat surface over which a clean cloth has been spread. Just before it is dry, iron on a clean white cloth.

CLOTH (To make waterproof).—Soften four ounces of glue, add two ounces of Sunlight Soap, and dissolve in a gallon of water. Boil the cloth in the mixture for four hours, then wring it out, and hang up until half dry. Now dissolve fifteen ounces of salt with thirteen ounces of alum in a gallon of water, and immerse the half-dry cloth in this mixture. After remaining in this bath for a couple of hours, the cloth

should be taken out and well rinsed in clear water, and hung up in a current of air to dry. After the second bath, the cloth should not be wrung, but allowed to drip until all the water is out of it.

CLOTH (To test).—To test the presence of cotton in cloth, draw out one of the cross threads and apply a light to it. If it burns with a flame, it is cotton. If it smoulders, it is woollen.

CLOTH (When rain-spotted).—Wipe away the wet the way of the nap of the cloth as soon as possible, using a silk handkerchief, or a soft brush, or a sponge for the purpose. By attention to this very simple method, the cloth will be found free from spots and quite smooth when dry.

CLOTH, WHITE (To renovate).—White cloth facings on tailor-made coats can be effectively cleaned, when not too soiled, by means of flour. A handful of flour should be heated—but not browned—in a moderate oven, and then rubbed all over the revers, cuffs and collar. This should be brushed off with a clean stiff brush, and the application repeated until the cloth is perfectly clean.

COAT COLLARS (To clean).—The velvet collars of coats frequently become dirty just inside the neck, while the other part is perfectly good. To remedy this, take a little paraffin on a piece of cloth, and with it rub the soiled part.

COLOURED EMBROIDERY (To wash).—Dissolve one tablespoonful of Lux to each quart of boiling water required. As soon as the liquid has cooled sufficiently to allow of the hands being placed in it with comfort, put in the embroidery—each article separately—kneading and squeezing it until all the dirt is removed. Rinse thoroughly in clear water, and roll the things in a cloth. The colours will not run in this way, and the cloth will quickly absorb the moisture. The articles may then be ironed as soon as ready, taking care not to use too hot an iron.

CORAL (To polish).—Tissue paper is a simple and safe thing with which to polish pink corals. Screw the paper up and use in the same manner as a chamois leather.

CRAPE (To renovate).—Plunge the crape into water in which a lump of sugar has been dissolved and a blue-bag has been squeezed out. Then lay on a cloth, pin down securely, and allow to dry.

CRÈPON (To wash).—Wash with Lux in the following way:—Shake free from dust the article to be washed. To one gallon of boiling water add one tablespoonful of Lux and whisk into a lather. When the temperature of the fluid has been reduced to just warm, work the crèpon in it briskly, without rubbing. Squeeze out the dirty water from the crèpon (without twisting) and rinse in two relays of *tepid (not cold) water*. Squeeze out the water (without twisting) and hang to dry. The more quickly this is done the better.

DRY-CLEANING.—Few people realize what an excellent instrument a rubber sponge is for the "dry-cleaning" of woollen materials. The material (coats, gowns, etc.) should be laid upon a table, and rubbed briskly with a sponge, taking care always to rub the wrong way of the nap, and cleaning the cloth carefully with a brush after each rub. Even the lightest of woollen materials can be treated in this manner.

DYE (To test if fast).—In choosing a coloured material, whether silk, canvas, cloth, or alpaca, it is by no means easy to tell a fast dye. To wash or damp the pattern is hardly practicable, especially where the pieces are bound in book form. In lieu of such a drastic measure of testing the permanence of the dye, the experiment should be tried of first damping the fabric by rubbing the surface with the end of a handkerchief moistened with water. The piece of cloth should then be wrapped round the first finger and rubbed quickly over a sheet of clean white note paper; the paper will remain clean if the colour is fast, while it will become more or less tinged if the reverse is the case. Another method of testing the dye is first to damp the fabric and then lay it between two sheets of white paper, when ironing it finally with a hot iron either brings out the colour or demonstrates that the cloth is not likely to fade or spot.

ERMINE STOLES (To clean).—White fox and ermine stoles and muffs may be cleaned by means of dry flour. To ensure the flour being perfectly free from moisture, it should be laid on the lid of a box covered with clean paper and placed in a moderate oven for a few minutes, care being taken, however, not to brown the flour. It should then be rubbed into the fur with a cloth, and the stole or muff either brushed gently or well shaken to eliminate the flour.

FEATHER BOA OR STOLE (To clean).—Make a good lather with Lux, dissolved in boiling water, and give the boa or stole two thorough washings. Do not rub it, but keep dipping it up and down. Having got all the dirt out, well rinse in lukewarm water. The boa will seem to go to nothing, but don't mind that. Next squeeze all the water out; don't wring it. Roll it in a bath towel. Then take one end of the boa, fasten securely, and shake the other end until dry. It will look like new.

FEATHER BOA (To restore).—If a feather boa turns limp curl it as soon as you enter the house by shaking it over boiling water in which salt has been generously dissolved. This is a simple method and involves very little trouble.

FEATHERS, OSTRICH (To clean).—Make a good lather by dissolving Lux in boiling water, and dip the feathers up and down in the lather till the dirt is removed. Rinse thoroughly in lukewarm water. Do not rub the feathers. Dry and shake. The feathers should then be finely curled with a blunt knife, but it is best to send them to a cleaner for curling, as the process requires experience to obtain the best results, and there is an art in curling feathers which an amateur does not always acquire.

FEATHERS, OSTRICH (To dry-clean).—To dry-clean and curl an ostrich feather is a simple matter. Hold the feather in the fumes of burning sulphur. This should be done in the open air if possible, for if any silver or gilt articles are within reach of the fumes, they will be quickly affected, and become tarnished.

FIREPROOF MIXTURE FOR CHILDREN'S GARMENTS.—Boil two packets of Lux in a quart of water; when dissolved, add alum the size of half a walnut, then wash the garments in this just as flannels are washed (see recipe on each packet of Lux). Alum should be put in the rinsing water, also in the blue water, if for white things. This is especially useful when children are attending parties, as there is often a risk of their clothing catching fire from the lights used for decorations, etc. Coloured muslins or other thin cotton goods are suited to the process, as well as those of a stouter make.

FURS (To clean).—Furs may readily be cleaned at home by simply rubbing them with bran. Buy a pound of bran, divide into two portions, and place one in the oven to heat. Spread the fur on paper on a table and rub it well all over with the cold bran. Then shake out the bran and brush the fur with a soft hat-brush. When the remainder of the bran is quite hot, rub it evenly into the fur in the same manner as before. Shake it out, and brush till the fur is quite free from all bran and dust.

GLOVES, CHAMOIS LEATHER (To clean).—Make a soapy lather by dissolving a little Lux in boiling water. When sufficiently cool to be comfortable to the hands, put the gloves in and wash by squeezing the leather; rinse in warm water, and dry in a hot room. While the leather is drying, rub it several times to prevent it from becoming stiff. A dessertspoonful of ammonia may be added to each quart of water used.

GLOVES, SUÈDE (To clean).—Put the gloves on the hands, and then rub them well with Vinolia fuller's earth, applied with a small nail-brush. White suède gloves should be cleaned with dry pipe-clay.

GLOVES (To clean).—To clean light kid gloves, rub them with cream of tartar, leave an hour, and then rub with powdered alum and Vinolia fuller's earth, mixed in equal proportions. Next day, brush the gloves till the powder is removed, and finish by rubbing with dry oatmeal, to which a little powdered whiting has been added, afterwards wiping this off with a dry cloth. To clean white leather gloves, place one tablespoonful of Lux in a bowl. Pour a quart of boiling water over it, and whisk into a lather. Then add cold water till the solution is cool enough to place the hands in with comfort, put the gloves on the hands, place them in the lather, and squeeze to expel the dirt. No rubbing is required. Ammonia may be added to the water, a teaspoonful to each quart. Rinse the gloves in warm water, take them off, and squeeze in a dry, clean towel. Open the fingers with stretchers, or blow into the gloves to open them and dry out of doors.

GLOVES (To dye tan colour).—To dye gloves a tan colour, prepare a solution of one ounce of acid yellow and a sixteenth of an ounce of fast brown (both aniline dyes) in one pint of water. Place first one and then the other glove on the hand

and sponge with the cold solution until the dye has penetrated sufficiently; allow them to dry slowly, stretching the gloves from time to time so as to render them supple and prevent shrinkage. A nice finish can be imparted by dissolving one ounce of gum tragacanth in thirty ounces of water, sponging with this, and again drying the gloves as above.

GLOVES (To make waterproof).—The gloves or mitts which many women use in gardening or housework (such as scrubbing floors) may be made waterproof by dipping them in melted Waxaw. If a thinner coat is preferred, and only on the palm of the mitts or gloves, melted Waxaw may be brushed over their surface. The coating of Waxaw may be renewed as often as the surface needs it. Leather gloves may be made waterproof by giving them a coat of best boiled linseed oil, and allowing it to dry by exposure to the air. To render the dressing pliable, one per cent. of castor oil should be added to the boiled oil.

GLOVES (To preserve).—If a piece of ammonia is placed in the glove box, it will keep gloves in good condition. Care, however, must be taken that the ammonia does not touch the gloves. Black kid gloves will last much longer if, before use, each glove is put on and a very little vaseline, taken on the tip of the finger, is well rubbed into the kid till all traces of grease have disappeared.

GOLD JEWELLERY (To clean).—Gold jewellery can be wonderfully brightened by washing in ammonia and water. Should the interstices of a brooch or links of a chain be clogged with dust, the articles should first be immersed in a cupful of warm water and rubbed gently with a brush which has been dipped in Lux soapsuds, the Lux having been dissolved with boiling water. They must then be laid in a little warm water to which a few drops of ammonia have been added, and after a few moments removed and dried in a soft cloth, polishing being afterwards effected with a chamois leather.

GOLD LACE (To clean).—Gold lace, when soiled, may be cleaned by first brushing it with a small stiff brush dipped in plaster of Paris. A little clean benzoline should be employed with which to rinse it, drying being effected with an old handkerchief.

HAT, FELT (To freshen).—To freshen up a man's felt hat, put some hot water into a bowl and make it a deep blue with some common washing blue. Take a soft brush and brush the hat well with it, the way of the nap, and then hang up to dry where there is no dust.

HATS, PANAMA (To clean).—Panama hats may be cleaned with peroxide of hydrogen, a new sponge being used with which to apply the liquid. Care should be taken that all dust is first brushed out of the hat. The hat should afterwards be laid in the sun to dry.

HATS, STRAW (To clean).—To clean white straw hats, make a thick creamy solution by pouring a pint of boiling water on to a tablespoonful of Lux. Let the mixture cool a little, and (having first removed the hat-band) brush the hat thoroughly with it, using a soft nail-brush for the purpose. Rinse well in warm water, dry with a soft cloth, and hang in the open air to finish. Vim also makes a capital cleaner for straw hats. Remove the band, sprinkle a little Vim on to a damp cloth or nail-brush, and apply to the hat. If the straw is coarse it is better to use a brush. Wash off with clean water.

HAT, WHITE FELT (To clean).—Get some pipeclay from an oil-shop. Remove any trimmings, plunge the hat into a basin of hot water, and use the pipeclay as you would soap, scrubbing well. Do not rinse, but merely squeeze out tightly, and dry before a bright fire. Iron the brim first, and the crown can be shaped by putting the iron inside the crown and turning round and round while you mould from the outside. Lux will be found an admirable cleanser of all felts that water will not damage.

KNICK-KNACKS (Ladies').—Ladies' knick-knacks, such as silver, plush, lace, art muslins, white or light silks, cambric, etc., can be cleaned without injury with Lux, used according to directions on the packet.

KNITTED SILK TIES (To wash).—Make a lather of Lux with boiling water. When cool enough for the hands, put in the tie, squeeze softly between the hands till clean, rinse in tepid water, and iron between a folded cloth. If the ties are coloured, add salt to the washing water to preserve the colours. If white, add a little methylated spirit to the rinsing water.

LACE SHAWL (To renovate).—A black lace shawl that has turned brown can be renovated by the following process:—An old black kid glove is boiled, and the lace is spread on to a board, and sponged with the liquid. The lace should be left to dry on the board, when the colour will be found to be quite restored.

LACE VEILS (To clean).—Chantilly lace veils may be cleaned satisfactorily by using Lux. If the veil is very dirty, it may be put to soak overnight in clean, cold water, but this is not absolutely necessary. Procure a wide-mouthed bottle, such as a pickle or fruit bottle. Make a solution by briskly stirring one heaped tablespoonful of Lux into a gallon of boiling water. Put into the bottle the veil to be washed, and fill the bottle three parts full with the solution of Lux and water; then shake vigorously, and the water will quickly become dirty. Pour it out and refill the bottle with the Lux solution; repeat this process until the veil is quite clean. Afterwards fill the bottle with warm water, shake it, repeat the rinsing as before, using warm water, until every vestige of Lux has disappeared. For the last rinsing, water that has been slightly blued may be used. After washing and rinsing, the veil should be dipped in weak starch, and then gently pulled into shape, rolled in a cloth until almost dry, and ironed with a warm, but not hot, iron.

LACE-WASHING WRINKLE.—A wrinkle for those who are obliged to wash a dainty lace or embroidered handkerchief in the washhand-stand basin when travelling, and have no means of ironing or getting it up in the correct and orthodox fashion, is to press it against the window-pane when quite wet, smoothing it out with the greatest care, so that no ridges or creases are left. The handkerchief will readily adhere to the pane of glass when wet, and will dry rapidly. When drawn away from the window-pane, it will be found to be as smooth as if it had been gone over with a hot iron. Care should, of course, be taken to see that the window-pane is quite clean before it is used.

LEATHER, PATENT (To clean).—Take French harness-paste used by saddlers. Apply it sparingly to the leather, and polish it lightly with a piece of black cloth. Patent leather thus treated rarely cracks.

LEATHER WAIST-BELTS (To clean).—White leather waist-belts are somewhat of a worry to their possessors, as they are so apt to soil. A good method of cleaning is as follows:—Cream of tartar mixed into a thick paste with some cold water, rubbed on the belt, and left for an hour, is the first part of the process. Make another powder of equal parts of alum and fuller's earth, mix into a paste with cold water, and rub this also on the belt, after removing the first mixture. Let the latter dry, and afterwards brush off all the powder from the belt. The brush used must not be too hard. Finally rub the belt with some coarse oatmeal mixed with a little whiting.

LININGS, SKIRT (To freshen).—Skirt linings are apt to become soiled, and it is a good plan to go over them from time to time with a cloth well wrung out in warm water. This will remove the dust, and freshen the lining.

MACKINTOSH (To clean).—To clean a mackintosh, dip it in soft, cold water, then spread it out flat on a table, and scrub it with Sunlight Soap. Rinse in several changes of water to get rid of the suds, but do not wring. Hang it out in the air, or in a room far from the fire to drain and dry. If stained by paint and grease, the spots can be removed by rubbing with spirits of turpentine. This process will not injure the lining, the chief points to be remembered being not to use hot water, and not to hang the garment near a fire.

MOTHS (Preservatives against).—The annoyance, and sometimes serious loss, resulting from damage to clothing, etc., by moths, can be avoided by simple precautions which involve very little trouble or expense. Cedar-wood shavings in muslin bags, distributed freely among clothes, are a preservative against moths. Camphor-wood shavings in bags answer the same purpose. Gum camphor is also obnoxious to moths, and they will not approach while the camphor smell continues. When the gum evaporates it must be renewed. It should be put in lumps among blankets, furs, and woollen curtains when stored away. Printers' ink is disliked by moths, therefore newspapers should be used to wrap up valuable furs and woollens. Another excellent plan is to place pieces of Lifebuoy Soap, wrapped in muslin, among furs when storing away for the summer.

MOTOR VEILS (To dry-clean).—A satisfactory method of dry-cleaning motor veils and scarves of fine Shetland wool is as follows:—Take some ordinary flour and salt, which should be well sifted together, and heated; place the mixture in a bowl, and dip the veil or scarf in the mixture and rub between the palms of the hands as if the article were being washed in the ordinary manner. Repeat once or twice, if necessary.

ORNAMENTS, JET AND AMBER (To mend).—Jet and amber ornaments are apt to be set aside as useless, if accidentally broken. A little skill, however, will render them as good as new. Amber can be mended by smearing the broken pieces with a thin layer of linseed oil, and holding them near the fire until the amber becomes soft and pliable. The severed edges should then be pressed together and placed under some light weight till set. Broken jet may be repaired by means of elastic glue. After softening the glue by heating it, the broken edges should be slightly warmed, and the glue applied as sparingly as possible. When the pieces have been pressed together they should be put in a cool place to set.

PEARL BUCKLES (To clean).—Mother-of-pearl buckles may be easily cleaned by rubbing them with a paste made of ordinary whiting and water. This should be left to dry on, the surface being then polished with a cloth or plate brush.

PEARL JEWELLERY (To clean).—Pearl jewellery may be cleaned by washing in Sunlight Soap and water, to which a little ammonia has been added. Rinse well in clear water, dip in alcohol, and dry in sawdust. All this should be done as quickly as possible, for pearls are often cemented into rings, brooches, etc., and liquids tend to soften the cement.

PEARLS (To restore lustre of).—Pearls which have lost their lustre should never be kept with other jewels in a velvet-lined jewel-case. A much better plan is that of half filling a small cardboard box with rice flour, and burying the pearls in the flour, protection from the light being a necessity if the original shimmer is to be restored.

PIPECLAY FOR BUCKSKINS.—White buckskin should be cleaned with damp pipeclay, which should be carefully spread over the skin, and left till it has dried thoroughly in the sun and air. Brush the surplus pipeclay off, and the skin will be beautifully white.

RIBBONS (To wash).—Place some Lux in a vessel, allowing three or four tablespoonfuls for every gallon of water required, pour the water over it while boiling, and whisk into a lather. When the lather is cool enough to place the hands in with comfort, put in the ribbon and squeeze it in the hands to expel the dirt. No rubbing is required. Rinse in two or three relays of tepid water, squeeze the water out without twisting, and hang in the open air. The quicker this is done the better. The solution when used must not be hotter than the hands can bear with comfort. Iron when nearly dry, placing a piece of soft linen between the iron and the ribbon.

RIBBON, TAFFETA (To stiffen).—Black taffeta ribbon which has lost all its stiffness may be improved considerably by sponging it on both sides with cold water, to which as much borax has been added as will readily dissolve. The ribbon should then be drawn out and spread on a flat board until nearly dry, and finally pressed with a moderately hot iron over a slightly damp cloth.

RINGS, TIGHT (To remove).—To remove a tight ring from the finger, pass a strong thread under the ring by means of a needle, towards the palm, and draw the thread through. Then take the long end of the thread, and wrap it tightly in regular coils about the finger down to the nail to reduce the size. Then, taking the short end of the thread, next to the palm, gradually unwind it, carrying the ring with it.

SERGE (To clean).—Serge may be successfully cleaned as follows:—First of all, brush and shake well, to get rid of the dust, then brush carefully all over with a good, hard clothes-brush dipped in malt vinegar, using plenty of the vinegar. The serge should then be hung out in the air for an hour to dry, and afterwards pressed on the wrong side over a damp cloth. The ordinary serge skirt will be found to look like new after this treatment.

SHOES, BLACK SATIN (Renovator for).—A good renovator for black satin shoes may be found in diluted spirits of wine. The satin should be stroked the right way of the fabric with a sponge dipped in the spirit, rather than rubbed, and then rubbed gently with a piece of old silk.

SHOES, MILK FOR PATENT LEATHER.—Remove all dust and dirt from the shoes, then wash the uppers thoroughly with milk. Let them stand a minute with the milk on them, then wipe with a soft, dry cloth. They will keep their brightness for a long time without polish or dressing.

SHOES, TIGHT (Remedy for).—If a boot or shoe pinches, lay a cloth dipped in hot water across the tight part. This should be changed several times, and the moist heat will cause the leather to shape itself to the foot.

SHOES (To make rainproof).—To make shoes rainproof, the soles should be soaked in a mixture of tallow and resin. This should be melted—half a pound of resin to one pound of tallow—and the liquid poured into a shallow dish. Stand the shoes in the mixture, while it is lukewarm, and leave until the mixture has been to a great extent absorbed by the leather.

SILK BLOUSES, COLOURED (To wash).—Place some Lux in a pan, using one tablespoonful of Lux to every half-gallon of water to be used. The quantity of water depends on the number of articles, but use enough. Dissolve the Lux by pouring the water over it while boiling. Have ready another pan of cold water. Add to each pan a wineglassful of vinegar for every three quarts of water. Wash the blouses quickly and carefully in the pan of hot water containing the Lux solution, squeezing them and working them up and down. Do not wring them. If they are very dirty, use another supply of suds. Rinse in the pan of cold water. Again press well to get rid of the water, pulling the sleeves straight. To give gloss and stiffness, pass through a solution of gum. The strength depends on the sort of silk, but an ounce to a quart of boiling water is the average, and gum arabic is the best. Use it when cool. Fold the blouses straight, and wrap in a clean, dry cloth, ready for ironing.

SILK DRESS (To clean).—The dress should be unpicked, and the breadths washed with Lux. Have two pans of water, one nearly boiling and one cold; add to each a wineglassful of vinegar for every three quarts of water. The quantity of water depends on the quantity of silk, but use enough. Then make a solution in the hot water, using a tablespoonful of Lux to every half-gallon. Wash the silk quickly and carefully, squeezing and working it up and down. Do not wring it.

If it is very dirty, use another supply of suds. Rinse in the second pan of cold water and vinegar. Again press well to get rid of the water, pulling it straight. To give gloss and stiffness, pass through a solution of gum. The strength depends on the sort of silk, but an ounce to a quart of boiling water is the average, and gum arabic is the best. Use it when cool. Fold straight and wrap the silk in a clean, dry cloth, ready for ironing. It will probably be advisable to turn the silk when making up the dress again, in which case the silk should be ironed on what was originally the right side.

SILK EMBROIDERY (To clean).—Place some Lux in a vessel, allowing three or four tablespoonfuls for every gallon of water required, pour the water over it while boiling, and whisk into a lather. When the lather is cool enough to place the hands in with comfort, put in the embroidery and squeeze it in the hands to expel the dirt. No rubbing is required. Rinse in two or three relays of tepid water, squeeze the water out without twisting, and hang in the open air. The quicker this is done the better. The solution when used must not be hotter than the hands can bear with comfort.

SILK, JAPANESE (To wash).—Dissolve one dessertspoonful of Lux in a quart of hot rain water, then add four more quarts of cold rain water, three ounces of ammonia, and one ounce each of spirits of wine, ether, and glycerine. Silks washed in this will retain their original sheen.

SILK (To remove rain-spots from).—A shower of rain will often, apparently, ruin a silk dress or blouse. Before assuming that it has done so, see what ironing will do. In most cases, the silk may be made to look as good as new by placing a piece of muslin over, and ironing on the wrong side.

SILK (To remove stains from).—A great deal depends upon the nature of the particular thing that has caused the damage. Many very delicate silks wash very well if properly treated, and washing would be the simplest and best way of removing the stains. If the material is soft Indian silk, it ought to stand washing. Wash with Lux, following the directions given above for cleaning Silk Embroidery. When nearly dry, roll the silk smoothly and tightly in a damp cloth; after some time unroll this on a blanket, and iron the silk through the cloth.

SILK (To renovate).—Dust-stained silken materials, when not stained by wax or grease of any kind, can be renovated by rubbing the surface with a piece of soft silk, such as China or pongee, and then polishing with any hard and highly-polished substance. A bevelled glass paper-weight or glazing-iron will answer the purpose admirably, the whole surface of the silk being gone over by degrees, and the material laid on an ironing-board covered with a piece of blanketing. If much stained, the application of pure alcohol will be found most efficacious, the spirit being diluted with water. After rubbing the material with alcohol, it should be quickly reversed, covered with a clean cloth, slightly damp, and pressed as expeditiously as possible with a moderately hot iron.

SILK, WHITE (To wash).—To wash white silk, make a lather by dissolving Lux in boiling water, and use when lukewarm. Do not rub the silk, but move it about in the water till it is clean. If hot water is used, it will turn the silk yellow. It should be wrung out well, taking care to wrap it in a thin white cloth when doing this. Place an old handkerchief over the silk, and iron as quickly as possible.

SPECTACLES (For wearers of).—Washing the spectacles in potash water each morning, and polishing them, will prevent moisture from dimming the glasses.

STAINS, GREASE (To remove).—Grease can be removed from clothing by means of petroleum spirit. If the clothing is very greasy it should be put to soak in the spirit, then wrung out and left to dry in the open air. Dry magnesia is usually successful in removing grease marks from silk. It should be rubbed over the surface with a piece of flannel, and the garment then held sufficiently close to a red fire to melt the grease without scorching the fabric. A mixture that will remove grease from the finest fabrics is made of one quart of rain water, two ounces of ammonia, one teaspoonful of saltpetre, and one ounce of Vinolia Shaving Soap cut up very fine.

STAINS, MUD (To remove).—Obstinate mud stains can be removed from a black cloth skirt with a slice of raw potato, if brushing fails. The removal of mud stains from white dresses requires careful treatment. The material should

be laid on a table and the stains covered with a good thickness of powdered borax, this being well rubbed in with the palm of the hand. Leave it for an hour; then brush it carefully with a soft brush. The stains will have disappeared.

STAINS, OIL (To remove).—Oil stains on clothing, etc., which have been caused by machine or bicycle oil may be removed by means of fresh lard. The lard should be applied like paste over the spot, and allowed to remain for an hour or so, when it should be scraped off, and the surface washed with cold water and soap jelly made with Rinso.

STAINS, PAINT (To remove from clothing).—Paint may be removed from clothing by the application of equal parts of ammonia and turpentine, well shaken together. Apply carefully to the actual spot, and let it penetrate for five or ten minutes; repeat this two or three times, and the paint will come off in flakes. In washing fabrics, this treatment is very successful, even if the paint has been dried on for a long period.

STAINS, PITCH AND TAR (To remove).—A method which is usually successful lies in rubbing the spots with lard, leaving the fat on the surface. After an hour or two, the lard should be rubbed off, and the material rubbed with spirits of turpentine, until the stains are no longer visible. In the case of coloured goods, where the stain has left a colourless patch, this may be remedied by the application of chloroform to the surface.

STRAW (To bleach).—Straw hats or baskets may be bleached in the following manner:—Wash the straw with clear water, and, while still wet, put it into a cool oven in which some burning sulphur has been placed. Keep the door of the oven closed for a couple of hours.

TORTOISESHELL (To polish).—To polish card-cases, boxes, and other knick-knacks made of tortoiseshell, the articles should be rubbed with a paste made of very finely powdered pumice stone and sweet oil, applied with an old suède glove. Rinse quickly in warm water to get rid of the paste. Then rub with moist plate powder, and finally polish with dry plate powder. It may be necessary to repeat the process.

UMBRELLAS (Care of).—Before using a new umbrella, inject a small quantity of vaseline into the hinge portion of the frame. Vaseline will not spread like other oil and spoil the covering, and is a sure preventive of rust. Wet umbrellas should be stood on their handles to dry. This allows the water to run out of them, instead of into the part where the silk and ribs meet, thus causing the metal to rust and the silk to rot. Umbrellas should never be tightly rolled, as this causes them to wear out much faster than when put away loosely.

UMBRELLAS (To repair).—To repair an umbrella, slightly torn, cut a piece of black sticking plaster rather larger than the hole, and let it float in cold water, dull side down, until soft. Then place it very neatly against the hole inside. The umbrella will last like this for some time without needing re-covering.

VELVET (To clean).—To clean velvet, apply butter to the article with a piece of velvet the same colour, or nearly so, and wipe gently. If all the butter is afterwards wiped off, the article will look as fresh as when new. Of course, this only applies to dark velvets, as a light shade would be likely to change colour.

VELVET (To renovate).—Velvets and other pile fabrics are difficult to deal with, as the application of liquids usually causes the pile surface to lie flat, and have a broken, shady, and uneven appearance. The pile can be set up again by holding the material over steam, but, of course, that is only possible when dealing with small quantities. A good reviver for velvet, and one that does not bleed the colours, is made by adding a pint of ox-gall to a pail of water. Brush out all the dust from the velvet, and make a pad of soft, white rags. Dip the pad in the solution, and squeeze out; then with this wipe the velvet in one direction only. The dirt will quickly discolour the outside of the pad, which must be changed to a clean part until all the surface of the velvet has been gone over. Do not on any account attempt to saturate the material, as this will quickly lay the pile. When the process of wiping over is complete, the velvet will look almost as good as new.

WOOLLEN GOWN, BLACK AND WHITE, or BLACK AND GREY (To remove soils from).—Make a lather by dissolving Lux in boiling water (one tablespoonful to a quart). With a flannel well soaked in this lather, while warm, lightly rub the soiled parts. Then get some cold water, put a good pinch of salt in to set the black, rinse the soap well out with the salt and water, and dry the dress as quickly as you can, if possible in the open air; while damp, press it with a warm iron, placing a white cloth over the material. This treatment cleans woollen stuffs in black and white, or grey.

WOOLLEN SHAWLS (To clean).—White woollen shawls, which are only slightly soiled, may be cleaned by means of starch. A cloth should be spread over a table, and the shawl laid on it. Powdered starch should be freely sprinkled and rubbed over the surface, a fresh supply of starch being then strewn over the shawl, which must afterwards be folded over and rolled into a tight bundle. Next day the roll must be undone, and the shawl rubbed between the hands until the starch is removed.

WOOLLENS (To make moth-proof).—The moth-proofing of woollens is a matter of importance. A solution of one pound of alum in four quarts of water is a preventive against the ravages of the clothes-moth. It is an inexpensive remedy and is a permanent protection to unwashed fabrics.

WOOLLENS (To remove scorch-marks from).—To remove scorch-marks from woollens, add the juice of a baked onion to an ounce of Vinolia fuller's earth, a little Lux, and a wineglassful of vinegar. Heat and stir the mixture until the Lux is dissolved, and apply to the articles, letting it remain on until quite dry; then wash with Lux, as directed on packet for woollens.

SEWING AND NEEDLEWORK.

BEADS (To thread).—When threading beads, cobbler's wax should be used with which to grease the silk. If the beads are very fine, and the holes so small that the eye of the needle cannot be pushed through them, one strand of the silk should be left about a quarter of an inch longer than the others. This should be well waxed and rolled between the finger and thumb so that all the strands are stuck together, the longest one ending in a fine point. This will act in lieu of the needle, and enable the beads to be easily strung.

HEM-STITCHING (Easy method).—A good deal of difficulty, when hem-stitching handkerchiefs or working drawn-thread insertion, is often experienced in gauging the requisite number of threads which are to be caught up. An excellent method of dividing these evenly and at the required distances is that of first drawing the threads, folding over and basting the hem, and then working the needle of the sewing machine along the line of pulled threads. The needle should not, of course, be threaded, and the " stitch " should be so adjusted that the indentation caused by the needle occurs at the right intervals for the hem-stitching—namely, at every third or fourth thread. If this is done evenly, the act of picking up the threads will be an easy matter.

KNITTING HINT.—When knitting stockings or socks, it will be found that they will last twice as long if a strand of silk or thread be knitted into the toes and heels with the wool.

LINEN (To mend).—If towels or table-linen show wear, darn even tiny holes with cotton floss or coarse thread. For darning purposes, the cotton floss is preferable to linen.

NEEDLES (To make work easily).—If a needle, when sewing, takes to going stiffly through the material, pass it through the hair, three or four times, and it will then work quite easily.

NEEDLES (To preserve).—Needle books made of chamois leather will preserve needles. Those made of flannel often have the effect of rusting them, as sulphur is often used in the manufacture of flannel.

PIN-CUSHION (A satisfactory).—Few people are aware that a pin-cushion filled with coffee-grounds instead of bran or sawdust will keep needles or pins in good condition, and preserve them from any chance of rusting. The grounds should be rinsed until perfectly clean, and spread out on a flat surface to dry thoroughly before they are used. Sheep's wool is also a satisfactory preservative of needles and pins, the oily quality of the wool being the means of keeping them from rust.

SCISSORS (Substitutes for).—When no button-hole scissors are at hand, and it is necessary to make a row of button-holes identically the same size, a chisel of the right size, placed in position, and driven through the material with a sharp blow from a mallet, may be used as a substitute.

SCISSORS (To sharpen).—If, when you are ready to do some special work, you find your scissors blunt, work them, as if cutting, on the neck of a small bottle, four or five times. You will find that they become quite sharp.

SEWING MACHINES (Care of).—When the sewing machine runs hard, take some kerosene and oil thoroughly, remove the needle, and run it as if for sewing. Then, with a cloth, wipe carefully, removing all the oil and dust. Next oil the machine in the ordinary way, wiping every part again. Before sewing properly, run a few stitches on a strip of cloth kept for the purpose, to remove all oil that may have attached itself to the needle bar.

SEWING MACHINE WRINKLE.—The band attached to the wheel of the sewing machine is apt to slacken with time, necessitating the substitution of a new piece of leather. A good plan, however, which is worth trying, when the looseness is first noticed, is that of moistening the band with a little castor oil, the handle of the machine being turned rapidly for a few moments. This will have the effect of shrinking the leather, and causing the machine to work smoothly.

TOILET.

BATH BAG.—Place half a pound of fine oatmeal, half a packet of Lux, and one ounce of powdered orris root, into a bag made of oatmeal cloth or coarse linen. This bag squeezed into the bath will make the water soft, creamy, delicious, with the smell of violets; the bag can be used many times. The body may be rubbed with the bag instead of with soap, and the effect is delightful, the skin being cleansed and rendered beautifully supple. Such bath bags would sell well at bazaars. This is a hint to ladies who wish to offer something unique in aid of the good causes in which so many are interested. The bath bags may be varied in scent by mixing a few drops of oil of roses or bergamot with the oatmeal, instead of using powdered orris root.

BATH MIXTURE.—Take twelve ounces of eau de cologne, one packet of Lux, eight ounces of Lever's Glycerine, and shake all together with twelve ounces of rose-water in a bottle. A small quantity poured into the bath or the wash basin makes a very refreshing washing fluid.

BATH (Soap for).—A most beneficial and cleansing soap for use in the bath is Lifebuoy Soap. A regular cold or warm bath, according to constitution, is very health-giving and refreshing. The body should be lathered and rubbed freely with Lifebuoy Soap, which disinfects in addition to cleansing, and gives a health-glow to the skin.

BATH WATER (To soften).—Dissolve in boiling water from four to six tablespoonfuls of Lux, and pour into the bath, when the water will become creamy and soft, most refreshing to the skin.

COMPLEXION CREAM (Vanishing).—Royal Vinolia Vanishing Cream is a delightful preparation for the face and hands, very soothing and refreshing to the most sensitive skin, and keeping it in a condition of perfect health and beauty. The cream is an excellent tonic, and stimulates the skin to resist the disfiguring effects of weather or other conditions. It is absolutely non-greasy, will not encourage the growth of hair, and vanishes immediately it is applied. Prices, 6d. and 10½d. per tube, or in pots at 10½d.

COMPLEXION HINT.—Do not expose the face to the air immediately after washing it. When the pores of the skin are just open, the action of the air is apt to coarsen and chap the skin. A dull complexion should be washed twice a day in tepid water with Royal Vinolia Soap.

COMPLEXION POWDER.—Royal Vinolia Complexion Powder is thoroughly reliable, and imparts a delightful, velvety appearance to the skin. It is a most desirable beautifier for use in the toilet in preparation for the theatre and ball-room, and is, as well, a splendid protection against hard weather. Price 1/9 per box.

DENTIFRICES.—Those who prefer a liquid dentifrice will find Royal Vinolia Fluid Dentifrice a most pleasing and hygienic wash for the teeth, mouth, and throat. It produces a new and refreshing flavour of cleanliness, and is excellent for use after smoking, after meals, and before retiring. It destroys germs and prevents decay. Price 1/- per bottle. Royal Vinolia Tooth Paste is an excellent paste which cleans and whitens the teeth thoroughly without scratching the enamel. It arrests decay and hardens the gums. 6d. and 10½d. per tube. As a cleanser for the teeth, in powder form, Royal Vinolia Tooth Powder will be found very efficacious. Oxygen—which is recognized by scientists as the enemy of all decay—is the element which gives to this pleasing preparation its great cleansing power. It whitens the teeth, strengthens the gums, and prevents decay. Price 1/- per tin.

FINGER NAILS (Care of).—For discoloured or stained finger nails, a teaspoonful of lemon juice in a cup of warm, soft water is invaluable. It will loosen the cuticle from the finger nails, as well as remove discolouration. Brittle nails may be cured by soaking them daily for a few minutes in warm sweet oil. Brush the nails occasionally with a little Vim.

FINGER NAILS (To polish).—To polish finger nails, get some tincture of myrrh, and with a piece of chamois leather, on which you have sprinkled a few drops, polish the nails, finishing off with a dry leather.

HAIR BRILLIANTINE.—A new lustre and satiny smoothness is imparted to the hair by the daily use of Royal Vinolia Solidified Brilliantine. Though solid, it leaves no trace of heavy grease. Its regular use prevents dandruff. Price 1/- per box.

HAIR BRUSHES (To clean).—Beat up two teaspoonfuls of Lux with a quart or so of hot water; when warm, pass the bristles up and down and across the water. Do not let the back or the handle get wet, as it loosens the bristles and spoils the polish or varnish of the wood. Rinse in cold water, and lay the brush, bristles down, on a cloth in a warm place, but not close to the fire. It is a good plan to make a lather with a gallon of water and a tablespoonful each of borax and Lux, and wash a number at once. NOTE.—Crumb brushes, bottle brushes, and many other articles, may be cleaned in the same way, of course, separately from hair brushes.

HAIR (Shampoo for).—A delightful preparation for shampoo is obtained by dissolving two tablespoonfuls of Lux in a quart of *boiling* water, and then adding cold water to reduce to the required temperature. After washing the head, rinse with tepid water.

HAIR (To keep in curl).—One of the best methods of treating the hair so as to keep it in curl, is to beat up the yolk of a new-laid egg in half a pint of warm water. Wet the hair thoroughly with it before going to bed, and partially dry off with a rough towel. Curl the hair in paper or rag, and next morning run your fingers through the curl instead of using a comb. Another method is to mix the white of an egg with an equal solution of rose water and a few drops of perfume. Slightly shampoo the hair with this mixture before wrapping round the curlers. Leave until dry, then brush gently, and the hair should be wavy and keep in curl all day.

HAIR TONIC.—Salt is an excellent tonic for the hair. A dry saline shampoo may be made by mixing salt of a coarse quality with powdered orris root, the proportion being two ounces of orris root to a pound of salt. Mix thoroughly and rub into the hair and scalp. Then brush with a good bristle brush.

HAIR WASH (A dainty and refreshing).—Royal Vinolia Vegetable Hair Wash is a delightful preparation in the form of light flakes which readily dissolve in water. They produce a stimulating, refreshing lather, which removes all dust and dandruff from the hair, leaving it supple and fluffy. Price, per box, 1/-.

HAIR WASH (To make).—Dissolve one tablespoonful of Lux in one quart of boiling water. When cold, add the whisked yolks of two eggs, and a tablespoonful of spirits of lavender. Bottle, and cork tightly. Shake before using.

HANDS, CHAPPED.—A most healing and beneficial application for chapped hands will be found in Lever's Glycerine. After the application of the glycerine at bed-time, an old pair of suède or chamois gloves should be worn during the night. This simple plan will greatly improve the appearance of the hands.

HANDS (Emollient for).—Cocoanut butter and oil of almonds are excellent for the hands in spring, when the danger of chapping is over, for the skin with difficulty regains its normal smoothness. The ingredients—two ounces of each—should be stirred together in a bowl standing in a saucepan of boiling water over the fire, and, when well amalgamated, a couple of drachms each of oxide of zinc and borax should be added. To scent the cream delicately, any sweet perfume oil should be added, or a very little rose water may be substituted, to which a drop or two of attar of roses has been added. Those troubled with rough hands should use a good skin soap such as Royal Vinolia or Lever's Velvet Skin, which will be found delightfully soothing and pleasant.

HANDS (To cleanse from stains, grease, and dirt).—Wet the hands, shake on some Vim, rub briskly, and rinse. They will then be thoroughly cleansed, as well as softened. French polish can be removed by using a coarse rag or wadding, saturated with methylated spirits. Finish by washing the hands with Vim as above. When the hands have become stained by picking flowers, the marks can often be removed by rubbing them with raw potato juice. The hands should then be washed in tepid water with Vim, rinsed in water to which a few drops of Vinolia toilet vinegar have been added, and finally dried with a soft towel. Instead of washing the hands when they have become soiled with paraffin oil, it is a good plan to rub them at once with dry sawdust. Oatmeal and lemon juice are most successful cleansers and whiteners for the hands. The juice of a raw tomato is also good for removing ink-stains from the fingers.

IVORY-BACKED ARTICLES (To clean).—A paste of sawdust, water, and lemon juice can be used with excellent results as a means of cleaning ivory-backed toilet articles. The paste should be spread evenly over the surface, and then allowed to dry on. When it is perfectly dry, it should be removed with a soft brush, and the ivory polished finally with a clean chamois leather.

LIP SALVE.—Vinolia Lypsyl is an excellent and pleasant emollient for dry, rough, cracked, or pallid lips. It is made in white, pink, and red tints, and is sold in dainty metal tubes at 4½d. and 9d. each.

PERFUME.—An exquisite and most refined perfume for people of taste and discrimination is Royal Vinolia Perfume, which contains the finest essences of flowers and sweet grasses. Its fragrance, while of the most subtle delicacy, lingers long after application. The Royal Vinolia Scent Sachet has exactly the same odour as the liquid perfume (see Scent Sachet). Prices of Royal Vinolia Perfume, 2/- and 3/6 per bottle.

SCENT SACHET.—The Royal Vinolia Scent Sachet is an exquisite novelty—unique in perfume and effect. Placed in bureau drawers, wardrobes, linen chests, etc., it readily releases its exquisite fragrance, which clings subtly to every garment or article with which it comes in contact. The Sachet having the same odour as Royal Vinolia Perfume, they may be used conjointly to the greatest advantage. Price, Sachets 1/- each, Perfume 2/- and 3/6 per bottle.

SHAVING POWDER.—A shaving powder is preferred by some men, and such will find Royal Vinolia Shaving Powder exceedingly satisfactory and pleasant. It instantly supplies a profuse and refreshing lather which does not dry upon the skin, and is a revelation of comfort and convenience to all who use it. Cooling, soothing, and stimulating to the skin. Price 10d. per tin.

SHAVING SOAP.—The Royal Vinolia Shaving Stick supplies a copious, luxurious, and lasting lather, which quickly softens the hardest beard, and renders the morning shave most pleasant and refreshing. The stick can be used with either hot or cold water, as preferred, and will yield the best results to users who follow the method suggested on the box in which the stick is packed. Price 9d. each.

SHAVING STICK (A popular).—Lever's Easy Shaving Stick is a popular shaving stick for use with either hot or cold water. The lather is rich, creamy, and affords a quick and delightful shave. It is soothing to the skin, and keeps the face clean and smooth in all weathers. Perfectly pure in materials and manufacture. Price 4d.

SKIN (Cream for).—See Complexion Cream (Vanishing), page 115.

SKIN (Powder for the).—Royal Vinolia Talcum Powder is excellent for absorbing perspiration and preventing chafing and skin discomforts. It is a great comfort in hot weather and after shaving, and is admirably suited for use in the nursery. In handsome tins, 1/- each.

SKIN TONIC.—One dessertspoonful of Lux dissolved in a basin of hot water, produces a creamy fluid which, when used for the toilet, is a skin tonic *par excellence.*

SKIN TROUBLES.—For skin troubles—eruptions, itchings, abrasions, and in every case where a soothing and perfectly hygienic cream is required, no better can be used than Royal Vinolia Cream. Physicians and sufferers alike testify to its efficacy. When used together with Royal Vinolia Cream Soap, the greatest possible benefits are secured. The Cream is sold in dainty tins at 11d. and 1/7, and Royal Vinolia Cream Soap at 4d. per tablet, or 1/- per box of 3 tablets.

SPONGES, NEW (Treatment of).—New sponges should be soaked in warm water and carefully examined before being used, otherwise the face may suffer from the omission, for new sponges often contain small sharp pieces of rock-stone that would scratch the face unless removed.

SPONGES (To clean).—Dirty sponges may be washed in "Handy Ann" and hot water. Leave the sponge in the mixture for a couple of hours, then rinse in cold water and dry in the sun.

SPONGES (To purify).—To purify sponges, soak for twenty-four hours in buttermilk, and then wash in tepid water.

TEETH, ARTIFICIAL (To cleanse).—Monkey Brand will be found excellent as a cleanser for artificial teeth, and its regular use will give highly satisfactory results. A brush with fairly hard bristles should be used so as to thoroughly cleanse the teeth and interstices.

TEETH (To cleanse).—See Dentifrices, p. 116.

TOILET BOTTLES (To clean).—Toilet bottles which have contained brilliantine or other oily liquids can be cleaned by putting into the bottle a few narrow strips of blotting-paper and pouring in a little vinegar and warm water, in which a little " Handy Ann " has been dissolved. The mixture should be well shaken in the bottle, after which the blotting-paper should be removed and the bottle rinsed with warm water.

TOILET SOAP (An inexpensive).—Lever's Velvet Skin Soap is a delightful toilet soap and inexpensive. It gives a profuse cleansing lather, soothing and safe for even the most tender skin. Velvet Skin Soap is sold in a variety of exquisite perfumes, and its low price (2d. for a large tablet) brings it within the reach of all who appreciate a luxurious toilet. In the following scents:—Pink Rose, Wood Violet, English Lavender, Glycerine & Cucumber, Buttermilk, White Heliotrope, Old Brown Windsor, Parma Violet, Oatmeal.

TOILET SOAP (Made from products of fruit and flowers).—Plantol Toilet Soap is made from products of fruit and flowers, and is guaranteed to contain no animal fat. It is perfectly adapted for use in the nursery, and is excellent for the complexion, causing no irritation, and cleansing thoroughly. Tablets (Floral Bouquet) 3d. and 6d., (Natural Bouquet) 2d. and 4d.

TOILET SOAPS (Soothing).—Royal Vinolia Toilet Soap gives an exquisitely soft and luxurious lather which is very soothing and refreshing to the skin. It contains no free alkali, and is manufactured almost entirely from vegetable materials. The price is 4d. per tablet, or 1/- for box of 3 tablets. Another delightful soap at the same price is Royal Vinolia Cream Soap. It is particularly suitable for the delicate, sensitive skins of ladies and children, and will be found excellent for all toilet and nursery purposes.

TOILET VINEGAR.—Vinolia Toilet Vinegar will be found delightful for use in water for the toilet or bath. In hot weather, a dash of Vinolia Toilet Vinegar added to a basin of warm or cold water is very refreshing, and particularly acceptable to an oily skin. It should always be well diluted with water when used for the skin, and should not be applied with much frequency for facial washing purposes. Toilet Vinegar

may sometimes be used with advantage as a hair stimulant, and good results have followed the simple practice of dipping the tips of the fingers in the vinegar and rubbing them over the scalp, using brisk friction.

TOOTH PASTE (See Dentifrices, p. 116).

TOOTH POWDER (See Dentifrices, p. 116).

TORTOISESHELL COMBS (Care of).—Tortoiseshell combs that have lost their lustre can be re-polished with a paste made of very finely powdered pumice stone and sweet oil, rubbed on with an old suède glove. When the polishing has been effected, rinse quickly in warm water, to get rid of the paste. Then rub with moist plate powder, and finally polish with dry plate powder. It may, however, be necessary to repeat the process, as in many cases it is not easy to obtain a very bright polish.

WATER (To soften).—A simple specific for softening hard water for toilet purposes will be found in Lux (which must first be dissolved in boiling water). Another method of softening water is to sprinkle a little Vinolia fuller's earth into the hand-basin.

MISCELLANEOUS.

AMBER (To repair).—There is usually a difficulty in repairing broken amber, but a good cement can be made by dissolving a piece of amber in chloroform. Apply this to the broken pieces, warming them and taking care that the surfaces are perfectly smooth and clean before applying the cement.

BLACK LEATHER BAGS (To renovate).—To renovate black leather bags, take a tablespoonful of common soda and dilute in a glass of hot water. Apply to the bag and allow to get dry. Get a pennyworth of shoemaker's ink and apply it to the bag with a sponge. When dry, get a tin of black boot polish and apply in the ordinary way.

BOTTLES (To seal).—Ordinary bottles can be made perfectly airtight if they are securely closed with a cork or cover, and then dipped into about half an inch of melted Waxaw.

CANARIES (To wash).—There is no better preparation for fanciers for washing canaries than Lux, which imparts a beautiful appearance to the plumage. The Lux should first be dissolved in boiling water, and the solution then cooled to the required temperature.

CATS (To drive away).—An excellent way to keep cats out of one's garden is the following: Fix a number of iron rods, five-eighths of an inch thick, into the wall at intervals of 10 feet apart, so that they incline into your garden at an angle of 45 degrees; then stretch across these rods and securely fasten to them a roll of wire netting about 2 ft. 6 in. to 3 ft. wide, which should be fastened down to the wall, when it will be impossible for any cat to enter your domain. Cats never take a direct jump down from a height, but creep down as far as possible before making a spring, and this the inward slope of the netting renders impossible.

COINS (To test).—Grip the coin horizontally between finger and thumb, and quickly and firmly scratch a slate with its edge. If the coin is good, a white scratch with dust will be the result. If bad, a shiny mark and no dust. The firmer the coin is pressed against the slate, the better the test. The constant use of the slate trains the sense of touch so acutely that it becomes quite possible to detect a base coin without looking at it.

DOGS (To wash).—For washing dogs, use Hodgson and Simpson's Winner Dog Soap, which cleanses without drying or injuring the coat. It is a strong insecticide, destroying fleas, etc., yet is absolutely harmless. The soap deodorizes the dog's hair and skin and keeps them perfectly healthy.

EBONITE (To mend).—Broken ebonite can be cemented with a solution of gelatine and acetic acid. This is made by just covering some gelatine with the strongest acetic acid; allow it to stand all night, and melt down by a gentle heat. The portions of ebonite to be cemented are touched with the solution, placed together, bound with wire or string, and allowed to set for a few days.

FEATHERS (To dry).—Here is a good way to dry feathers. Throw a handful of salt on a clear fire, the kitchen fire preferably, because there is generally more scope for shaking operations. When the fire is absolutely smokeless, shake the feathers over it, taking care to hold them at a sufficient distance to avoid singeing them.

FOWLS (To pluck).—The following is the Australian method of plucking fowls. As soon as the birds are dead, plunge each into a pail of boiling water, into which a pint and a half of cold water has been thrown. One minute's soaking is generally sufficient. Every feather can be stripped off in the easiest manner possible—in fact, they can almost be brushed off. The skin never tears, and the insects that infest all chickens will have disappeared.

GLUE (Substitute for).—A very good substitute for glue can be made by rubbing a piece of cold boiled potato on paper until it is of the right consistency, when it will be found equal to strong glue or cement.

GLYCERINE.—Lever's Treble Distilled Glycerine and Lever's No. 1 Pure Double Distilled Glycerine are guaranteed to comply with all the requirements of the British Pharmacopœia, 1885 and 1898.

INDIARUBBER GOODS (To clean).—To clean indiarubber goods, a piece of clean household flannel should be wetted with lukewarm water and rubbed upon a tablet of Sunlight Soap. When a lather is obtained, apply the flannel to the rubber and pass it briskly over the surface. This will speedily make the article clean. Set to dry in a cool breeze.

KEYS (To clean).—Some people attempt to clean rusty keys with emery paper. This, however, is a somewhat lengthy operation, and a better method is to place the keys to soak in a saucerful of paraffin for twenty-four hours. At the end of this time the rust will be sufficiently loosened to allow of its being rubbed off with a piece of coarse house flannel.

LAMPS (Cement for).—If the glass reservoir of a lamp becomes loose, a good cement for re-fastening it in its place is made as follows:—Get some plaster of Paris and mix it up with gum water. Clean the neck of the reservoir free from grease with some dry ashes; clean the brass ferrule or cap in the same way, and fill in with the cement, and press the reservoir down into the cement. Clean off the surplus cement, and put the lamp aside until it sets. This is a perfectly reliable cement.

LEATHER, BROWN (To clean).—Purses and handbags of brown leather can be cleaned and polished by the use of Hodgson & Simpson's Winner Saddle Soap, according to the directions contained in the tin.

LEATHER, GLUE FOR STICKING.—New leather patches may be glued to old leather by means of the following solution:—Take one pound of gutta percha, four ounces of rubber, two ounces of pitch, one ounce of shellac, and two ounces of linseed oil. Melt all slowly together, and apply while still hot.

LEATHER, SHABBY (To renovate).—Leather that has become dull and shabby-looking may be very much improved by being rubbed over with the well-beaten white of an egg. Sweet oil is also an excellent renovator of shabby leather, and may be used with advantage to polish up old leather bags. The oil must, however, be carefully removed with a dry cloth after the needful dressing has been given.

LEATHER (To waterproof).—Dissolve half a pint of linseed oil, one ounce of beeswax, $\frac{3}{4}$-ounce of Burgundy pitch, and $\frac{1}{4}$-ounce of spirits of turpentine over a slow fire, and apply to the leather while the mixture is still warm.

MILK (What it will do).—Milk will immediately and effectually extinguish the flames from gasoline, or any other form of petroleum, as it forms an emulsion with the oil, whereas water only spreads it.

NAILS, RUSTY (To draw).—To draw a nail that has rusted, drive the nail into the wall a little way with a sharp blow from a hammer, when it can easily be drawn. Nails that have rusted into wood may easily be removed by dropping a small quantity of kerosene over them. Allow this to soak in, and, after a short time, they can be removed without any trouble.

NICKEL (To clean).—Nickel is always difficult to clean when once it has been allowed to become rusty. When this is the case, the rust marks should be covered with grease and left for a few days, when the grease should be removed with a rag dipped in ammonia. Both rust and grease will be easily rubbed off together.

PAINT BRUSHES (To clean).—So many people renovate their own houses, and re-paint and touch up their garden railings, etc., that the following method of cleaning paint brushes should prove useful:—When the painting is finished, put the brushes into a gallipot in which some White Raven Soft Soap and Soda have been melted in boiling water. Whisk the brushes round and round in this; change the water, add more White Raven Soap and Soda, and so on until the brushes are clean. Rinse them in warm water, and leave them standing in cold water until you wish to use them again. If they have become hard and dry, rinse them in turpentine before washing them.

PASTE (Adhesive).—A good adhesive paste is made by mixing wheaten flour with cold water to a thin, creamy consistency. Heat in an enamel saucepan till the mixture thickens, stirring the whole time. Then add and stir well in, thirty drops of oil of cloves to half a pint of the original mixture. When cold, remove the hardened surface, and bottle. This paste keeps indefinitely.

PENS (To improve).—When a steel pen becomes hard and stiff, it may be greatly improved if it is held for a moment in the flame of a candle, and then dipped in water, or moistened with a drop of oil. Instead of damping a pen-nib before using it for the first time, it will be improved if it be held for a second in a flame or on a hot coal.

PETS—CATS AND BIRDS (Washing).—Lux, first dissolved in boiling water and then cooled, is excellent for washing cats and birds, and keeps the coat and plumage in beautiful condition. It much improves the appearance for exhibition purposes. Lux is also capital for washing poultry and pigeons before exhibition.

PHOTOGRAPHS (Mountant for).—A good liquid glue for mounting photographs is prepared by breaking enough best glue into small pieces and placing them in a wide-mouthed bottle, then covering with a sufficient quantity of methylated spirits. The mixture is then well corked, and kept in a fairly warm place for a few hours, the bottle being frequently shaken and the contents stirred. If the glue does not entirely dissolve in a day, add a little more spirit. Spread the mountant thinly, and do the mounting as quickly as possible.

PLANTS (Care of).—Ferns and palms that have lost their glossy appearance may be considerably freshened if they are sponged over every now and then with a mixture of milk and lukewarm water in equal parts. Sponging with a solution of Sunlight Soap and water is also found beneficial to the appearance and health of palms, plants, etc.

PLANTS (Coffee grounds for).—According to old-fashioned directions for amateur gardeners, coffee grounds were considered invaluable as a means of keeping the earth damp round the roots of plants in pots, whilst, in the case of roses, they were said to render the bushes far more prolific.

PLANTS (To make insecticide for).—An excellent and cheap insecticide for garden use is a solution of Sunlight Soap, about two ounces to the gallon. It can be used for dipping plants of manageable size; or may be applied with a syringe to plants of larger growth, or to fruit or other trees. It is much cheaper than fumigating, for clearing off insects, caterpillars, etc.

PLAYING CARDS (To clean).—To clean playing cards, rub them on both sides with a little butter on a clean piece of flannel. Then polish with another piece of flannel dipped into dry flour. They will be found equal to new.

SEALING WAX SUBSTITUTE.—If sealing wax is not obtainable, and the safety and privacy of a letter have to be assured, the flap of the letter should be damped with white of egg instead of being moistened in the usual way. An envelope secured in this way cannot be steamed open.

SOFT SOAP.—Lever's White Raven Brand Soft Soap will be found excellent for all purposes for which a thoroughly pure and reliable soft soap is required. It is composed of vegetable fats and pure, highly refined potash only, and is free from mineral and other adulterants. A little does more work than two or three times the quantity of ordinary kinds.

TURPENTINE (To test).—To detect whether turpentine is pure or not, drop a small quantity on a piece of white paper, and expose to the air. No trace will be left if the turpentine is pure; but if it contains oil or other foreign matter, the paper will be greasy.

VULCANITE (Cement for).—To make a cement for vulcanite, place some gelatine in a wide-mouthed bottle, cover with strong acetic acid, allow to stand till softened, then melt down by gentle heat. Previous to using the cement, the vulcanite should be slightly roughened on the edges with fine emery-paper.

ZINC (To clean).—To clean zinc, wash in warm Sunlight soapsuds, dry, and then rub thoroughly with a cloth dipped in either turpentine or paraffin.

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THE SOAP WHICH CARRIES THE
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